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Israel

The Labor Party will submit a no-confidence motion on 27 January, according to Jerusalem radio, which added that the opposition five-member Citizens Rights Movement party has decided to abstain in the vote. Labor's move was punctuated by a clash between party leaders Peres and Rabin, the radio continued. Earlier, the Likud decided not to call early elections, opting instead to try to defeat the motion, Tel Aviv radio disclosed. The foreign minister's media briefing before his departure for the PRC was broadcast by Tel Aviv radio. The military commander of the Gaza Strip will proceed with the deportation of seven Gazans, according to Jerusalem radio, which added that the prospective deportees have appealed the move to the High Court of Justice. The government will "agree to defer" its demand to move the peace talks to the Middle East, DAVAR reported.

Palestinian Affairs

Participation in the Moscow multilaterals is contingent upon the inclusion of "diaspora" Palestinians and those from East Jerusalem, the PLO's Sulayman al-Najjab told the JORDAN TIMES. The PLO representation in Damascus will be upgraded to embassy level, according to "a leading Palestinian figure" cited by the Jerusalem paper AL-MANAR.

Algeria

Severance of relations with Iran is being discussed at the "highest level," according to an AL-WATAN report cited by Algiers radio. A Foreign Ministry spokesman denied a JANA report that Libya is mediating in the dispute between Algiers and Tehran, the radio continued. A French Foreign Ministry official arrived for talks, according to the radio, which also broadcast an unattributed commentary accusing France and Iran of interference in the country's internal affairs. The chairman of the Higher State Council received the prime minister and foreign minister, APS reported.

Iraq

Saddam's talk to children as part of the war anniversary celebrations was transmitted by INA. The transport and communications minister denied that a U.S. firm had aided telecommunications reconstruction efforts, the agency continued.

Jordan

Iraq reportedly smuggled more than half of its nuclear material to the country, according to "an Arab diplomatic source in Cairo" whose remarks were printed in the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN and reported by KUNA. Media reported pro-Iraq rallies marking the start of last year's war.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi addressed a meeting of Arab parliamentarians in Tripoli; in his speech, broadcast by Tripoli radio, he discussed Lockerbie, the peace process, and Edwin Wilson, among other subjects. A commentary by JANA's political editor blamed the Lockerbie crash on "bad weather." The agency's international affairs editor rejected a British daily's charge that Libya has recruited Russian nuclear scientists. Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Damm, general coordinator for affairs with Egypt, denied that there was an attempted coup recently, the Cairo paper AKHBAR AL-YAWM reported.

India

Libya's 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud arrived on a short visit, Delhi radio reported, four days after India filed a "strong protest" over a Libyan proposal to discuss Kashmir at the United Nations. Jallud

said his country's position on Kashmir had been "misunderstood" and that immediate steps had been taken to withdraw the proposal, the radio continued.

Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's talks with Syrian Vice President Khaddam were reported by Tehran radio. Before departing, Khaddam said nonparticipation in the Moscow multilaterals is "very natural for us," Damascus radio disclosed.

Arabian Peninsula

Saudi Arabia announced an "immediate" 100,000 bbl/day cut in oil production, Riyadh radio reported. Qatar cut its production by 10 percent, WAKH disclosed. Kuwait radio transmissions from Cairo will continue for another year, according to an agreement with Egypt reported by KUNA.

Lebanon

The South Lebanese Army denied Nabih Birri's charge that it is intending to annex the town of Rshaf to the security zone, Jerusalem radio reported.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Israel 'To Defer' Demand for Talks in Region

TA1901120092 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Jan 92 p 2

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Excerpts] Political sources in Jerusalem last night reported that despite its demand to move the talks to the region, Israel will agree to hold another round or two of meetings in Washington.

The sources noted that despite the government's previous position—that it would only agree to hold two rounds of talks in the U.S. capital—the government now feels the situation is not so bad, for two reasons: First, the United States has refrained from intervening in the negotiations. Second, the Arabs have not had much success with U.S. public opinion.

The sources said that Israel would continue to insist that the talks be transferred to the region but would agree to defer the implementation of that demand. [passage omitted]

Jerusalem sources last night expressed concern over the future of the multilateral talks, due to begin in Moscow next week. There is still a lot of doubt regarding the participation of many Arab countries in the conference. In addition to Syria, whose nonparticipation was made final yesterday by President Hafiz al- Asad, and Lebanon, apparently Morocco, Algeria, and Yemen will decide not to attend.

The Palestinians are demanding that they be represented in a separate delegation, and that delegates from East Jerusalem and the Palestinian diaspora be included in their delegation to Moscow. As a result of that position, Jordan has also refrained from confirming its participation. Officials in Jerusalem fear that if the Moscow talks are boycotted by all the countries holding bilateral negotiations with Israel, then it will become difficult for other Arab countries, such as Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states, to participate. This could lead to the collapse of the multilateral process even before it starts. [passage omitted]

Jordan's al-Majali on Results of Washington Talks

JN2101174092 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1610 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Interview with Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation, with unidentified reporters following his return to Amman on 21 January; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Majali] As a result of Madrid, the Palestine question was presented before all eyes and ears, and was heard by all people in the world. Also, that Jordan is not Palestine was made very clear. In the first stage that was held in Washington, Israel feared the emergence of the Palestine question and exerted all its efforts to undermine this view and the emergence of the Palestine question. Israel took a long time, and we discussed this issue before. This time, the truth is that I can say that we confirmed the issue of the completely independent Palestinian- Israeli and Jordanian-Israeli tracks. The second track is to discuss Jordanian-Israeli issues, and the first is to discuss the transitional phase, and what the Palestine question needs in terms of negotiations with the Israeli side. We succeeded in this. We actually entered the rooms, and a discussion of the agenda began.

[Reporter] What do you expect in the coming stage of negotiations? Will discussion of substantive issues be directly tackled?

[Al-Majali] I believe so, because this time we tried to discuss them. But before this is done, the agenda must be discussed. We presented our vision of peace, and the Israelis presented theirs. We discussed points on the agenda. We did not, however, discuss substance. We discussed Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as we and the world see them. They explained how they see these resolutions and how they interpret them. We also discussed the implementation of the Geneva Conventions in the occupied territories because of Israel's treatment every now and then in terms of expelling Palestinians in violation of this convention. We also discussed a very important topic: settlements. We did not engage in a full discussion, however, due to lack of time. At the end, there was a unilateral decision by Israel to leave. They wanted to leave on Wednesday, but they postponed their departure until Thursday. They left without the two sides agreeing on that. During the talks, we also discussed the venue of the coming meetings. We insist that Washington is a suitable venue, and we suggested meeting from 10 to 25 February; that is, at least for two weeks. We cannot tackle a new venue unless clear progress is made in the negotiations. Then, we can discuss changing the venue. Now, there is no reason to change the venue at the present time.

[Reporter] In your opinion, will holding early Israeli elections affect the peace process in the future?

[Al-Majali] I do not believe so. I asked the head of the Israeli delegation about this, and he said that there will be no effect because the government will remain the same. On the contrary, perhaps the departure of the intransigent ministers enables this government to proceed better then before.

[Reporter] What channels will be used to agree on the new date for the negotiations?

[Al-Majali] Until then, nothing appeared.... [changes thought] Of course, they may make statements and we may make statements. We will not talk about fixing any venue, however, except when the negotiations resume and we find that there is full seriousness and results, or signs of peace begin clearly to appear.

[Reporter] You met with the U.S. secretary of state. What were the topics tackled during that meeting?

[Al-Majali] U.S. Secretary of State Baker clearly stressed to me and to the rest of the delegation heads that President Bush and he are determined to continue to support the peace process, and will absolutely not retreat. However, they see no need to intervene with regard to procedural issues or small issues. When there is serious discussion of important issues, however, they will be there to employ their leverage on these negotiations.

[Reporter] Thank you.

'Ashrawi on 'Success' of Recent Round of Talks

JN2101191792 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation, has said that the recent Washington talks were crowned with success. In a news conference she held in Amman today, she said:

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording] The second round in Washington, the third round of bilateral negotiations, was in fact crowned with the success of the Palestinian and Jordanian plan or position regarding consecrating the negotiations on the basis of two tracks. The negotiations were started, not through the merging of the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations, but through separate bilateral negotiations. Israel was forced to negotiate along two tracks. Thus, it was unable to change the principles on which this march was built and upon which we started this march. Among these principles is direct bilateral negotiations along two tracks.

It was also a test of the willpower of the two sides. During the first stage in Washington, Israel attempted to dictate and impose its opinion and will on the entire march. Israel did not succeed due to the constant and firm position of the Palestinian and Jordanian sides. [end recording]

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League To Participate in Coordination Meeting

LD2101204192 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Egyptian foreign minister affirmed yesterday evening that Egypt has received an invitation from Morocco to attend the meeting on Arab coordination, which is scheduled to be held in Marrakesh before the date of the multilateral negotiations.

A responsible source at the Arab League said that Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd al Majid will also participate in this meeting which will be composed of a number of Arab states and the PLO.

At almost the same time yesterday, an official at the Moroccan Foreign Ministry denied the convening of such a meeting and said that his ministry has no knowledge of any initiative of that kind.

'Abd-al-Majid Confers With UN's Ghali on Libya

NC2101210292 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 18 Jan 92 p 1

[Text] Dr. Sonia Dabbus reports: Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has contacted UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Ghali to follow up on developments in the Libyan-U.S. dispute and the request that the Security Council resolve the dispute.

'Abd-al-Majid asked Ambassador 'Adnan 'Imran, Arab League assistant secretary general, currently in Washington, to follow up on the ongoing contacts at the Security Council and to consult with various parties to support Libya's stand when the dispute is referred to the Security Council.

At its meeting two days ago, the Arab League Council stressed its support for Libya and praised Libya's interest in revealing the facts about the U.S. and French plane crashes.

Arab League To Pursue Release of POW's in Iraq

NC2101155492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1318 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Jan (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has asserted the League's determination to pursue efforts to release all prisoners and detainees in Iraq, noting that this primarily is a humanitarian issue.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid made a statement today upon receiving a delegation of children of Kuwaiti prisoners held in Iraq which currently is visiting Cairo. He hoped that the Arab League's efforts and contacts to end this problem soon will succeed so the prisoners and detainees can return home.

Ambassador 'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Ji'an, Kuwait's permanent delegate to the Arab League, who attended the meeting, said that joint Arab action will not be complete as long as Kuwaitis continue to be detained in Iraqi jails.

In a statement after the meeting, he said the Iraqi regime is trying all means to include a number of Iraqi terrorists in the prisoners list to use them to disturb Kuwait's security and stability. He added that the Kuwaiti list which had been conveyed to the Arab League, the United Nations, the Red Cross,and the Arab human rights organization contains 2,101 names. [passage omitted]

GCC Expels Iraq From Sports Activities

LD1701091292 Riyadh SPA in English 1223 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 16, SPA—Prince Faysal Bin Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, chairman of the Youths Welfare Organization and president of the Saudi Olympic Committee returned here late last night from Bahrain where attended the meetings of the GCC's [Gulf Cooperation Council] ministers of youth and sports and heads of the Olympic committees which were held on Tuesday and

Wednesday. Earlier in the night, the GCC's ministers of youth and sports wound up their one-day meeting. A final statement issued last night said the ministers reviewed the implications of the Iraqi brutal agression of Kuwait and the continuing dangers posed by the Iraqi regime on peace and stability of the region. The ministers denounced the intransigence of the Iraqi regime on matters concerning prisoners of war from Kuwait and other states and described the Iraqi hardline stance on the issue as a flagrant violation of Islamic, Arab and international laws and charters.

In view of the aggressive behaviour of the Iraqi regime, its continuous threats to security and stability, and in compliance to the resolution made by the 11th GCC's summit conference which was held in Doha in December, 1990, the ministers decided the following steps:

1. Expulsion of Iraq out of Gulf youths and sports activities including the Arab Gulf football tournament.

2. The Arab Gulf football tournament would be set-up as scheduled to realise the targeted goals of close ties between member states.

3. The raising of the question of prisoners of war from Kuwait and other states in all international youth and sports forums until all prisoners are set free and return home and take part in the development march.

The ministers also decided to intensify regional and international contacts to exert more pressure on the Iraqi regime and to enforce that regime into full compliance to all resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council over its vicious aggression of Kuwait. The ministers thanked Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, shaykh Hamad Bin-Isa, the crown prince, shaykh Isa Bin-Rashid Al Khalifa, chairman of the Bahrain Youths and Sports Organization, the Bahraini people and officials for the excellent preparations for the meetings, the fraternal reception and accommodation awarded to participants. The meeting also adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations aimed at the reinforcement of youths and sports cooperation between the members states.

U.S. Emerged From Gulf War as 'Se' World Power

LD1701211992 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 17 Jan 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] A year ago the air force of the allied forces under the leadership of the United States launched the greatest ever air offensive on Iraqi military and strategic targets. This was the start of a grinding war aimed at forcing Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. Soon after this the real intentions of the allied countries became clear. They wanted to destroy the Iraqi infrastructure and Iraqi military capabilities now that Iraq had emerged as a regional power in the Middle East after its long drawn-out war with Iran. [passage omitted]

Regrettably, one year has passed and not much has changed in the Arab world. Kuwait still has not forgiven and forgotten. Iraqi sovereignty is violated and its people are deprived of their resources in the name of international legitimacy. As for the Arab states that participated in the alliance, they are still demanding that the siege and economic sanctions be stepped up against a state that is a member of the Arab League.

It is natural in the shadow of Arab polarization that the Palestinian issue was the biggest loser. Israel reaped the political, military, and strategic benefits. The Palestinian issue has undergone a political setback in the Arab and international arenas because certain Arab and Western forces, as well as Israel, denounced the Palestinian stand toward the Gulf crisis—a stand that was deliberately distorted. Naturally this lead to a suffocating political and economic isolation of the PLO and the persecution of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in the Gulf states who were stripped of their possessions, rights, and eventual deportation. One must add that the strategic dimension played by Arab states in the Palestinian issue was greatly weakened in the end.

There is no doubt that the United States emerged from the war as the sole leader of the so-called new world. It assured for itself a vital role in the future shape of this world. It strengthened its positions in the Gulf states and other Arab states who were in alliance with it. There is no doubt that the other states in the alliance improved their strategic positions somewhat and to various degrees. Despite the passage of one year since the desert disaster, these states are still far from solving their economic problems or realizing world stability. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

'Ashrawi—PLO To Decide Moscow Talks Attendance

LD2101185192 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations, affirmed that the decision on Palestinian participation in the multilateral negotiations is entrusted to the PLO leadership which will make its decision after Arab and international consultations. She also pointed out that guaranteeing PLO participation in the preparatory session of the multilateral negotiations in Moscow will eliminate one of the main obstacles to the Palestinians' participation in these negotiations.

She also said that the Palestinian-U.S. consultations are continuing in order to settle the dispute regarding the participation of Palestinians from inside and outside the occupied territories. She pointed out, however, that Washington is so far maintaining its policy (?of) following the Madrid formula, that is, to confine the Palestinian participation to that of Palestinians from inside the occupied territories only.

Diaspora Participation Said Essential

JN2201065192 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Jan 92 pp 1, 5

[By Lamis Andoni]

[Text] Amman—Palestinian participation at Middle East multilateral talks scheduled to be held in Moscow next week hinges on representation of Palestinians in the diaspora and from Arab East Jerusalem and guarantees that there will be no separate Arab deals with Israel, according to a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official.

PLO Executive Committee member Sulayman al-Najjab said that the PLO cannot accept representation to remain confined to the Palestinians in the occupied territories to prevent the fragmentation of the Palestinian people and problem.

The PLO was expected to rally support for its demands at an Arab foreign ministers meeting that will be held in Morocco on Friday [24 January].

Statements by PLO officials and members of the Palestinian delegation Tuesday indicated that the issues of Israel settlements, Palestinian representation and concern about a unilateral Israeli agreement remain top unguaranteed prerequisites for the success of the peace talks, from the Palestinian viewpoint.

"Unless all Palestinians are represented the peace talks will not deal with the national rights of the Palestinian people," Mr. al- Najjab said in an interview with the JORDAN TIMES on Tuesday.

The Palestinian demands followed the U.S. refusal to allow the PLO to take part in the third round of talks that are to be held in Moscow on Jan. 28-29 and again pushed to the surface the thorny issues of representation of Palestinians from East Jerusalem and the diaspora.

Member of the Palestinian delegation Dr. Sa'ib Urayqat confirmed on Tuesday that the U.S. had turned down a Palestinian request for Palestinians in the diaspora to take part in the Moscow talks.

"The United States administration has categorically rejected Palestinian participation from outside the occupied territories... in the upcoming negotiations in Moscow," Dr. 'Urayqat told the Associated Press.

Only Palestinians from the occupied territories have been directly represented in the peace talks since its opening in Madrid last October, while Palestinians from the diaspora and East Jerusalem have been confined to the role of advisors.

But now the PLO believes that it cannot afford to allow the same form of representation that it authorised for the bilateral talks since the multilateral talks deal with final and permanent solutions.

"The Madrid formula was designed for talks on interim arrangements but the multilateral talks deal with final arrangements and all Palestinians should be represented," Mr. al-Najjab said. "The Palestinians should be dealt with as one people. We shall insist this time on the representation of Palestinians in the diaspora and from East Jerusalem."

The PLO official said that the U.S. had so far refused to consider representation of Palestinians in the diaspora and from East Jerusalem.

He warned that the continuity of the same form of participation will drive a wedge between the Palestinian inside the territories and those in the diaspora.

The PLO fears, according to Mr. al-Najjab, that unless all Palestinians were represented issues like the future of East Jerusalem and the rights of Palestinian refugees displaced in 1967 and 1948 will be tackled inadequately if not totally dropped.

Both issues were supposed to be on the bilateral talks agenda but due to strong Israeli rejections and U.S. reservations, the initial understanding that they will be tackled at the multilaterals—limiting bilaterals to interim arrangements on Palestinian self-rule. [sentence as published]

The Palestinians reject the Israeli insistance to drop negotiations over East Jerusalem, which Israel wants to keep under its control, while Tel Aviv will seek agreements that will lead to a permanent settlement of the Palestinian refugees in the host Arab countries.

The PLO evidently believes that a delegation representing all Palestinians will force the Israelis to deal with Palestinian national rights and United Nations resolutions.

"The U.S. wants to maintain the same form of Palestinian participation in order to confine recognition of the Palestinian people to the West Bank and Gaza Strip," argued Mr. al-Najjab.

According to Mr. al-Najjab, there were suggestions, apparently by the U.S., that Palestinians in the diaspora can take part in technical sub-committees during the multilaterals.

He indicated that such proposals were unacceptable to the PLO.

"There is concern that some Arab countries will reach separate deals with Israel through the sub-committees," he said. "Therefore we will seek guarantees that there will be no separate Arab-Israeli deals."

Mr. al-Najjab, expressing resentment of the U.S. position, pointed out that the American insistence to exclude the PLO was "incomprehensible, especially that 'all' countries that are taking part in the Moscow talks recognise the organisation and support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. [quotation marks as published]

Commenting on the same issue, Palestinians spokeswoman Hanan 'Ashrawi said in Amman Tuesday that the PLO was the only authorised side to decide on whether Palestinians would attend the meeting.

'Synopsis' of PLO Report on Washington Talks

JN2101164792 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Jan 91 pp 1, 22

[By Tawfiq al-'Abid]

[Text] The Palestinian delegation to the bilateral talks has reiterated its refusal to recognize the Israeli measures on the annexation of Jerusalem, considering it an indivisible part of the territories occupied in 1967. It also announced that the Palestinian-Israeli track is not a continuation of Camp David, but is based on Palestinian and international legitimacy.

Addressing Israeli Chief Delegate Elyaqim Rubinstein, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi said: I am speaking on behalf of a people that has rights and aspirations, and I am determined to defend the Palestinian people's rights in these negotiations. The PLO is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate leadership which embodied international legitimacy by unleashing a peace inititive in November 1988. Our participation in the negotiations falls within this context.

This came in a report prepared by the PLO's Pan-Arab and International Relations Department on the outcome of the second round of Washington talks, a synopsis of which was obtained by AL-DUSTUR.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi said: The Palestinian people are a UN member and belong historically and organically to the land of Palestine, and that 1.7 million Palestinians are living under coercive circumstances created by the Israeli military occupation.

He added: Our problem is old; it is the violation of a people's rights. The whole world can see that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies to the occupied territories everywhere except those under Israeli occupation. The Palestinians were expelled from their homeland in 1948 and lived in camps while Jews left the Arab countries at the instigation of Zionism.

The report says: Two memorandums were handed to the Israeli delegation on settlements and violations. Both stressed the Palestinian people's right to establish their independent state, whose capital is Jerusalem. They also called for implementing Resolution 181, recognizing the refugees' right to repatriation as stipulated by Resolution 194, forcing Israel to withdraw according to Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, emphasizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and securing an international recognition of the independent state that was declared in 1988.

The two memos also emphasized the legal and geographic status of the Palestinian territories, occupied by force in 1967 despite Resolution 181. They also called for drawing up a timetable for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories—the West Bank, Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip. They stressed that settlement activity and confiscation of territory conflicts with the Geneva Conventions and the principle on which the negotiations were based. They called for an immediate halt to settlement activity.

The memo talked about the transitional period, considering it a stage paving the way for total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian territories and for self-determination. They called for repatriating the 1967 refugees and deportees and for the immediate implementation of Resolution 194. They said the basics of the search for a provisional solution require freezing settlement activity and halting the confiscation of land.

The report says: The Israeli position was so negative that it denied the existence of the Palestinian people or any violation of their rights, and claimed that the Geneva Conventions do not apply to the Palestinian territories because they—as claimed—are not occupied.

The report adds: The Israeli position is still hostile to our people and rights. Intransigence and arrogance are based on an imbalance of power in the region and world. This, however, will not prompt us to withdraw from the negotiations because we were well aware of this when we went to the talks. We were aware that we are waging a political battle and that our political negotiating stand is the strongest in terms of its dependence on international legitimacy and worldwide support for our rights.

The report, exclusive to AL-DUSTUR, adds: The good performance and the considerable political and media prominence scored during the Washington talks are not historic gains; they are important, though insubstatial, initial steps, and we should not be engrossed in delusions. It stresses that negotiations will resume between 10 and 23 February, but no agreement has been reached on the venue, although the Arab delegations prefer keeping them in Washington until some progress has been made. The Arab delegations, however, do not object to holding them in Europe. In the meantime, Israel is trying to move them from Washington.

Referring to Jordanian-Palestinian coordination, the report says: It was very positive and our Jordanian brothers have helped us in our overall stands whether in the talks about procedural issues or talks within their negotiating track. They stressed the need to halt the settlement activity and implement Security Council Resolution 242. This led to a unified political position in front of the Israeli negotiator. Coordination among the Arab delegations in the spirit of brotherhood and responsibility has also led to a unified stance and performance. Thus, the Israeli negotiator could not find anything that it can weasle out of or escape from.

Regarding the multilateral conference, the report says the Palestinian delegation in Washington and the brothers in Jerusalem have refrained from receiving the

invitation because it requested Palestinian representation similar to that in Madrid. It adds that the PLO is eager to participate in this conference because it will discuss issues of concern to the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories, such as those of refugees, human resources, and economy, and not issues of Palestinians under occupation.

It adds that the Palestinian delegation members who met with U.S. State Department officials—Kurtzer and Miller—have called for amending the formula of Palestinian participation so that the Palestinian delegation would be comprised of figures from the occupied territories, Jerusalem, and the diaspora within the framework of the joint delegation.

The delegation was made up of Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, Anis al-Qasim, Dr. Rashid al-Khalidi, and George Salim.

It says that Israel's objection to amending the formula of participation is impractical because Israel is already attending many international conferences alongside the PLO. Moreover, insisting on the Madrid formula will negatively reflect not only on th. Palestinian delegation's participation, but also the participation of some Arab countries.

PLO Denounces Murder of U.S. Professor

LD2101185992 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] A responsible source in the PLO has made the following statement:

The PLO denounces most strongly the ugly crime of the assassination of the U.S. Professor Dr. Albert Glock, head of the Palestinian antiquities department at Bir Zayt university, who had worked for 20 years at Bir Zayt university, where he contributed with his technical research to the refutation of the Zionist claims over Palestine. Zionist hands were not far away from this ugly crime, in view of the pioneering role which this professor played in standing up to the Zionist arguments. This crime provides new proof of Israel's attempts to tarnish the reputation and position of the Palestinian people in American and international public opinion. The PLO extends its most heartfelt condolences to the family and sons of the deceased, who are residents in Palestine, and to the Bir Zayt university family.

PLO Office in Syria To Be Upgraded to Embassy

TA2101202692 Jerusalem AL-MANAR in Arabic 20 Jan 92 p 1

[Text] A leading Palestinian figure has revealed that Damascus and the PLO recently reached agreement on a new formula, which will be announced soon, about the reorganization of relations between them. This figure added that contacts between the two sides for mending the rift between them in a firm manner had achieved considerable and positive progress. He pointed out that the new formula, which will be announced soon, upgrades Palestinian representation in Damascus from a PLO office to that of the embassy of the state of Palestine. The figure explained that this formula was drawn up in a way that conforms with the requirements of the phase that will follow the current peace talks.

Intifadah Should Not Be Price of Settlement Halt

LD2101141992 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Station Commentary]

[Text] Brothers: We should not lose sight of the significance of negotiations between the jailer and the prisoner, despite [words indistinct] enjoyed by the sons of our people inside the occupied land. Whatever may be the American assurances offered to them, they remain prisoners of the psychological state imposed on them by America, by attempting to forcibly uproot them from the legitimate tent of their people, as embodied in the PLO.

Although negotiating from a position of strength is one of the normal consequences of the stage of ending wars, what the United States and the Zionist entity have imposed, and which reached the extent of intervention in the formation of the negotiating delegation, has exceeded the limit of the situation when Schwarzkopf met with the Iraqi delegation in the tent at Safwan.

The inequity inside the bilateral negotiating room requires an important role in support of the strength and will of the Palestinian negotiator. America did not impose on the Zionist entity anything that touches the core of the strategic relations between the two countries. Therefore, the source of pressure should come from Palestine first, and then from the Arabs, and then from the Islamic world, and then from international public opinion and all peace-loving forces.

The Palestinian position inside and outside the occupied territories should remain cohesive on the question of fundamentals, despite differences relating to theorizing for the current positions [as heard]. And since the collective Palestinian struggle is launched for the liberation of the Palestinian land, and since all the Palestinian land is under occupation, there will be no danger of a Zionist occupation of a new Palestinian land. The danger resides in the Judaization of land by settlement and by changing its features, and by the waves of immigrants who, once settled on the land, drive the Palestinians collectively out of the land, this becoming a de facto matter.

All PLO and Arab endeavors to make the freezing of settlements a condition for convening the peace conference have failed. But transforming this subject into a higher objective on the priority scale—the priorities of the conference—and a condition for its continuity, should not be a result of bartering it with the blessed intifadah. The call to freeze or stop settlement in exchange for stopping the intifadah is merely an attempt to weaken the Palestinian position, in preparation for marginalizing it, abolishing it, and humiliating it by

imposing the Israeli conditions. The settlement—which America admits is illegitimate and an obstacle to peace—should not be a price of the blessed intifadah which was launched to establish the just and lasting peace on the basis of international legitimacy and the right of occupied peoples to resist occupation by all means, including armed struggle.

'Arafat Message to Cyprus Palestinian Conference

LD2001204792 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 20 Jan 92

["Text" of message from PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to the Asian regional conference of non-governmental organizations taking place in Nicosia, Cyprus—announcer read]

[Text] Your Excellency, the Ambassador (Kebe Peran Sisi), chairman of the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, best greetings to you. On the occasion of the convening of your respected Asian regional conference on the Palestinian issue in friendly Cyprus, I am pleased, in my personal name, to address to you and the non- governmental and parliamentary organizations, as well as to all participants, my best fraternal greetings and most sincere wishes for the success of the proceedings of your respected conference.

I also express to you our high consideration for the important role that your respected committee and the department for Palestine at the UN play in order to support our just cause and the legitimate struggle of our people and their national uprising for the sake of recovering and practicing their national inalienable rights, including their right to return, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent Palestinian state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

I also express our great consideration for friendly Cyprus, the host state, with its president, government, and people for its constant support for our legitimate cause and the political, moral, and effective contribution which it makes and for hosting your respected conference.

I also take this occasion to express our best congratulations to His Excellency Mr. Butrus Ghali, the UN secretary general, and our wishes to him for success in carrying out his noble tasks, safeguarding and respecting the UN Charter, implementing its resolutions, and achieving international security and peace on the basis of peaceful coexistence between peoples and guaranteeing their rights to freedom, independence, and sovereignty.

Ladies and gentlemen, your respected conference is being held while our Palestinian cause is passing through a decisive historical turning point, after the start of the peace process in Madrid conference and the negotiation sessions which were held in Washington on the basis of UN Resolutions 242 and 338, as well as the principle of land for peace and the guarantee of the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people. The PLO, the legitimate and sole representative of our Palestinian people, has contributed and is still contributing in a positive and distinguished way in order to (?facilitate it), despite unfair conditions, continuous provocations, and dangerous obstacles put by the Israeli Government in its path.

The Israeli Government has thus escalated its hostile and repressive policies and practices against our Palestinian people and has adopted resolutions with regard to devoting $50 million to build new settlements in our occupied Palestinian territories, expelling 12 Palestinian strugglers from the territory of their homeland, and allowing the Jewish settlers in the occupied territories to set up private armed militias. In addition to this, there is the continuous escalation of the iron-fist policy and the practice of organized state repression and terrorism, which are implemented by the Israeli occupation forces, as well as the Judaization and desecration of the Islamic and Christian sanctities.

The adoption of these new resolutions in the wake of the peace negotiations process constitutes a flagrant defiance of the international community and its will for peace as well as to the sponsors of the conference and in particular the United States, in whose capital, Washington, the talks are being held on the basis of the principles declared by President Bush himself. It also constitutes a flagrant violation of international charters and the 4th Geneva Convention and serious provocations which reflects the true intentions of the rulers of Israel and their desire to abort the peace process, destroy its bases, and thwart the international unanimity and the good efforts being exerted for resolving the Palestine question and the Middle East conflict on the basis of UN resolutions and in an equitable manner that guarantees for the Palestinian people the retrieval and exercise of their inalienable national rights.

In view of this and out of our unwavering care for the realization of a just peace in our area, which was affirmed by the decisions of our [Palestine] National Council during its last session in Algeria, we will seriously continue to participate in the peace negotiations.

At the same time, our people will continue their just struggle and national uprising, which were affirmed by numerous UN resolutions, on the basis that this struggle constitutes legitimate resistance to a foreign occupation.

We look to your honorable conference to support our persistent demand for ensuring international protection for our people in the occupied territories and for working to halt the building of Israeli settlements in our occupied territories and the expropriation of the Palestinian lands and waters and to bring international pressure to bear on Israel to persuade it to implement UN Security Council Resolution Number 726, which calls for a stop to the deportation of Palestinian cadres and the return of all deportees.

The realization of the aforementioned resolution will constitute a genuine contribution providing a push forward to the peace process giving it the necessary momentum for the realization of its objectives and the laying down of the bases of stability, security, and peace

in our region in a manner that realizes for all the peoples of the region their natural rights to a free and secure life under the aegis of peaceful coexistence.

We are fully confident of your continued support for our just cause and the legitimate struggle of our people.

We wish your honorable conference all success in its work.

'Arafat Holds Talks With Indian Prime Minister

LD2001210392 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Official talks between the Palestinian side, led by brother Abu-Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and the delegation accompanying him, and Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataraman, opened in New Delhi this afternoon. On the Indian side, the talks were attended by the Indian prime minister and members of the Indian Government.

The talks between the two sides focused on the peace process in the Middle East and the possibility of a role to be played by India in the march to peace, the latest developments on the Palestine issue under the current circumstances, and our heroic people's intifadah in the occupied territories, as well as ways of bolstering and developing bilateral relations between the states of India and Palestine in the interest of the two friendly peoples. [passage omitted: 'Arafat's arrival in New Delhi and ceremonial welcome]

'Arafat Meets ANC's Mandela in Tunisia

LD1901180992 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, met at noon today with Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress [ANC], and members of his delegation who are now on an official visit to Tunisia.

During the meeting they discussed the latest international, Arab, and Palestian political developments in light of the international efforts being made to ensure the success of the political peace process and Israel's obduracy with the goal of frustrating the peace process.

The discussions also covered the situation in occupied Palestine; the latest developments regarding the intifadah of our Palestinian people; the escalation of repression, oppression, and deportation and the building of settlements; and the settling of Jewish immigrants in the occupied territories.

The discussions also covered conditions in South Africa in particular and on the African continent in general. Brother Abu- 'Ammar reiterated the support of the PLO and the Palestinian people for the people of South Africa under the leadership of the ANC and its national movement.

During the meeting leader Nelson Mandela reiterated the ANC's support for our people's heroic struggle and their blessed intifadah in the face of the occupation and for the attainment of their legitimate national rights, headed by the establishment of an independent Palestinian State.

'Arafat Congratulates Algeria's Boudiaf

LD2001211692 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] Mohammed Boudiaf received a message of congratulations from the president of the State of Palestine, Yasir 'Arafat, which said: The Palestinian people and the masses of the Arab nation look up to you, great brother, and they are convinced of your and the Algerian people's ability to overcome difficulties and find solutions in these fateful and historical circumstances which the Algerian people and the whole world are going through.

Algeria

Boudiaf Receives Benhabyles, Ghozali, Brahimi

LD1901144392 Algiers APS in Arabic 1415 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] Algiers, 19 Jan (APS)—A statement by the Higher State Council reported that Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, chairman of the Higher State Council, today received at the seat of the Republic Mr. Abdelmalek Benhabyles, chairman of the the Constitutional Council, and discussed with him the activities of the Constitutional Council.

The chairman of the Higher State Council also received Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali, with whom he had a working session devoted to the economic and social problems which the arena is witnessing. In another development, Mr. Boudiaf received Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi, who furnished him with a summary of the most important international issues.

Report Denies Popular Councils To Be Dissolved

LD2001171592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] Services of the Ministry of the Interior and Localities have reported that the question of the municipal popular councils has not been placed on the agenda in any way. They expressed their surprise at press reports that these councils would shortly be dissolved and replaced by temporary administrations.

LE MATIN reported today, quoting a reliable source, that the municipal popular councils would be dissolved and replaced by temporary administrations. According to LE MATIN, the dissolution of these councils will be followed by new decisions pertaining to the plurality of parties.

Further on Reaction to Foreign States' Moves

Iran, France Seek To 'Interfere'

LD1901233892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Due to the conditions that our country is presently going through, certain countries have been seeking to interfere in Algeria's internal affairs.

It is within this framework that the Iranian information media are waging a campaign supported by the statements of certain officials, including in particular a number of members of the Iranian parliament, who warned the National People's Army against using force. These statements have led to coolness in the political relations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

The Algerian authorities have recalled Algerian Ambassador to Paris Smail Hamdani for consultations in light of statements made by some French political circles about the situation in our country. It should be recalled that Hamdani met with Francois Scheer, the secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry. Our colleague Barhoum Boudjumaa has commented on this. He said:

[Boudjumaaa] The political crisis which Algeria has witnessed recently, following the resignation of President Chadli Bendjedid and the changes this produced in the pyramid of authority, particularly the formation of a Higher State Council and the appointment of Mohammed Boudiaf as its president, have had a tumultuous reaction and caused rifts on the external level. They have met with indignation and frustration, particularly in official French circles. These circles did not like to see such events take place without knowing the truth about the changes, as though Algeria were destined to remain forever a French colony.

The truth of the matter is that, irrespective of the nature of the operation, it is the Algerians alone—parties, trade unions, organizations, and masses—who have the right to accept this or reject it. The official French position can be summarized in three points:

1. France's feeling of failure after it was overtaken by events as a result of the removal of one of its pivots. This makes it likely that it was aware of some of the operations that were being prepared in secrecy.

2. Its feeling of frustration, particularly after the dissipation of its hopes of striking at national unity as a means of destabilizing Algeria.

3. France's realization that the rules of the game have changed and that it no longer has any influence in the political arena.

This is at the level of the French reaction.

Iran's stand, as embodied in the statements of senior officials of that country, has another face and different features because the motives are not the same. France's motives are political and reflect a deep-seated hatred of Algerians. France does not want to see them united or embracing each other. Iran's motives, however, are religious and political. With all due respect to its Muslim people, Iran wants to see its model, which its leadership has failed to achieve on Iranian soil and within its own geographical environment because of internal factors, embodied outside its territory in order to prove to the Islamic world that its course is sound.

To be fair, we have to say that the Iranian revolution, as far as its human dimension and its struggle against injustice, tyranny, and domination are concerned, does honor to the Iranian people. However, in our opinion it is wrong for it to be taken as a model from the religious point of view, particularly for the Algerian people, who led one of the greatest revolutions in the world under the slogan of God is great. History does not tell us that the Algerian people had anything to learn from others. On the contrary, their revolution was an inspiration to the whole world.

Nor do we believe that custodians of Islam in this country are in need of advice from or consultation with

any party whatsoever. They are more knowledgeable about their people's affairs and more capable of understanding and preventing their people from stumbling. As for the political motive of the brothers in Iran, it is essentially based on Algeria's stand in the Iran-Iraq war, particularly during its last year. We do not need to recall here Algeria's role in urging the brothers in Iraq, from the start of the war, to see the necessity of stopping the fighting and of resorting to peace, which is the same role it also played with the brothers in Iran during the last year of the war and which was misinterpreted in Tehran. That interpretation is at the bottom of all Iran's stands on Algeria, the latest of which is its stand on the changes that have taken place in our country.

Thus the Iranian and French stands do not need any further explanation. We are certain that our affairs cannot be settled in Tehran or Paris but rather in Algeria and by Algerians.

Iranian Statements 'Flagrant Interference'

LD1801114892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Jan 92

[Text] The French language paper AL-WATAN today did not exclude the possibility that relations with Iran could be severed. AL-WATAN says that the highest levels are discussing severing relations with Iran because of statements by Iranian officials that are considered to be flagrant interference in Algeria's affairs.

Libya Not Mediating in Iran Dispute

LD1901142192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman today categorically denied today that there is any Libyan mediation between Algeria and Iran, or the fact that there is any other Arab or non-Arab mediation.

It is noteworthy that JANA transmitted a report—which was retransmitted by AFP—saying that Libya is currently carrying out intensive mediation between Algeria and Iran.

Visas Denied to Foreign Citizens

LD1801125192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jan 92

[Excerpt] With regard to the stands taken by some countries during the political crisis which recently afflicted the country following the resignation of President Chadli Bendjedid and the formation of the Higher State Council to run the country, AL-WATAN reports today that Algeria's highest level is discussing the question of severing diplomatic relations with Iran in response to the pro-Islamic Salvation Front statements made by several Iranian officials.

Though official sources have not yet confirmed these reports, AL-WATAN says that the departments concerned have been authorized to suspend the granting of entry visas to the nationals of Sudan, Iran, and Pakistan, including those carrying diplomatic passports. [passage omitted]

French Official Arrives 13 Jan

LD1601182492 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1500 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Excerpt] The French Foreign Ministry confirmed today that the director of the African Department [North African and Middle East Department] has come to Algeria on a mission of information and talks. This news was disclosed by informed sources in Algiers yesterday evening. Mr. la France came to Algiers three days ago and is due to return to Paris today, said Mr. Daniel Bernard, spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry, who expressed the view that it is quite normal for contacts to continue with all of the political forces in Algeria. [passage omitted]

Further on French Official's Visit

LD1601195992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1800 GMT 16 Jan 92

[Text] There is an official confirmation of the visit paid to Algeria by Pierre la France, director of the North Africa and Middle East Department of the French Foreign Ministry.

The official mission consisted of making contact with all political forces in Algeria. It is merely a question of helping to understand the situation in Algeria, said French Foreign Ministry spokesman Mr Bernard; there is no question of acting as a constitutional judge.

As for the position of the United States, which rectified its statement concerning the current situation in Algeria by henceforth adopting a neutral stand, Mr. Bernard answered, I quote: France has sufficient experience concerning Algeria not to draw inspiration from the stand of others.

Italian Envoy Denies Agreements Frozen

LD1801120292 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Jan 92

[Text] The Italian ambassador to Algeria says that financial agreements between Algeria and Italy have not been canceled and that the approved loans are ready, contrary to reports in the last few days to the effect that Italy had frozen loans it had granted to Algeria.

Islamic Front Allegedly Gave France Guarantees

PM1701154092 Paris LE FIGARO in French 16 Jan 92 p 3

[Unattributed report: "The Islamic Salvation Front's Guarantees to France"]

[Text] Did France receive guarantees from the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] in the event of the Islamic movement coming to power? According to a semiofficial source, the Algerian Government believes that a secret

meeting was held in Tehran shortly after the first round of the Algerian elections between representatives of the FIS and French envoys. The FIS apparently reassured its interlocutors that French interests would be safeguarded after it took power, and Iran, the same source states, acted as the guarantor of this.

In Algiers, Francois Mitterrand's statements on Tuesday that "the Algerian leaders must resume the democratic process, which was just starting, as soon as possible and carry it through," are regarded as a veiled condemnation of the latest events and are presented by the independent daily AL-WATAN as an alignment with Tehran's position.

Police Arrest Imam for Incitement

LD2001220892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] The national gendarmerie in Oued Fodda have detained three people who had in their possession military weapons and knives.

The national gendarmerie command reports that a unit of the national gendarmerie arrested the imam of a mosque last Saturday in the suburbs of Bou Saada because he was inciting citizens and urging them to rebel against state institutions.

FFS Leader Comments on Talks With FLN, FIS

LD1701213292 Paris Radio France International in French 1915 GMT 17 Jan 92

[Interview with Hocine Ait Ahmed, Socialist Forces Front, FFS, leader, by correspondent Farida Ayari; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] In Algiers, an appropriate alliance between the three fronts, the FLN [National Liberation Front], the FIS [Islamic Salvation Front], and the FFS [Socialist Forces Front] is being mentioned more and more, an alliance naturally directed against the new authorities. It must be said that all these parties met the last few days, including what was inconceivable only a few weeks ago: a meeting between the FIS and the FFS. More details are given by FFS leader Hocine Ait Ahmed, who spoke with Farida Ayari:

[Begin recording] [Ait Ahmed] It is to avoid confrontation that the FFS engages in great efforts in the greatest transparency. It is thus in this spirit that a FFS delegation met with a FLN delegation, and then a FIS delegation. On the eve of Friday's prayers it was mostly a matter of avoiding incidents and the situation getting out of hand, for which our people would have to pay the price.

[Ayari] In the short- to medium-term, can we consider the possibility of a common action by the three fronts against the new regime to reestablish the electoral process?

[Ait Ahmed] The FFS repeats its double refusal of the police state and of the fundamentalist state. It is out of the question for us to form any alliance with the FLN or the FIS.

[Ayari] You mentioned a dialogue, a dialogue with the junta in power. Do you agree with calling it a junta?

[Ait Ahmed] As for a dialogue in all directions, we have no complex about that. You say junta; I simply say coup: the violation of the Constitution in order to seize power. [end recording]

Rejects Alliances With FLN, FIS

LD2001191292 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] In a statement to the London-based AL-HAYAT published today, FFS leader Hocine Ait Ahmed dismissed any alliance with the Liberation and Salvation Fronts. He emphasized that what had been said regarding this was nothing but a falsification of the facts.

Ait Ahmed accused Iranian officials of pouring oil on the fire. He said that they are not worthy of assuming the noble responsibility of spreading the sacred message.

Further Reaction to Political Events

Union Welcomes Reduced Tensions

LD1901181892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] In a statement today the General Confederation of Algerian Economic Operators welcomed the relaxation of the political crisis and the beginning of the dissipation of the atmosphere of anxiety and fear.

On the other hand, the confederation said that in honor of the spirit of the tripartite agreement—meaning the meeting of the government, the union, and private and public operators—it was calling for the convening of a meeting with operators in the near future to consolidate and implement the results of the institution's proceedings in light of recent developments.

Association Criticizes FIS-FLN Coalition

LD1701145792 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Jan 92

[Text] The Popular Association for Unity and Action issued a statement yesterday in which it indicated that the coalition between the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] and the National Liberation Front [FLN] is considered to be an attempt to undermine political stability by fueling the fire at a time when the Algerian people are in dire need of calm and tranquillity.

Commentary Urges Dissolution of Political Parties

LD1901145792 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Commentary by correspondent Mohamed Hassan Chaiech]

[Text] Algeria is in danger. This is a strong expression with which Mr. Boudiaf began his speech to his compatriots in his first meeting with them after 30 years. We had truly been in need of such a speech from a man who had been watching us while we were in the fighting arena unable to see farther than our noses. We used to believe that we were fighting for the sake of Algeria, while we were in fact fighting over it.

Let us listen to this man who came from afar and who is casting upon us a look void of any sentiments apart from his feeling that his country is on the brink of the abyss. It is our duty now to recognize that we have lost valuable time during the three years which followed the October events. Confusion and competition in the creation of parties in a march toward power made us miss the opportunity of listening to a small group of wise men and a big number of citizens who have become what is known as the silent majority.

These persons used to say that Algeria's crisis is economic and that it requires an ambitious scientific and economic project, not a political one which is only just born but went beyond the reality of the people and country. They used to cry out of astonishment and worry, saying we asked for work and normal life and we were given the [political] parties. So how can one accept that in an underdeveloped country which did not know what democracy meant, a law was issued allowing no more than 15 people to form a party, which soon begins speaking in the name of the people. What we are saying here has been confirmed by the results of the first round of elections. Forty percent did not vote, as if the matter did not interest them, and we believe it is those who understood Algeria's problem as it should be understood. The rest divided in two old directions, in conformity with the traditions of the political struggle and a big number of people who bear grudges and seek revenge against the regime.

We hail, in this context, those who committed themselves to the rules of the party struggle, but we make a frank appeal to them and to others, in other words, to make an appeal to parties to dissolve themselves for a predetermined amount of time and to join a big party, that of Algeria. We call on those who are committed to the rule of party competition to intensify this commitment, each one in his position, first to bring political stability back, and second to provide enough opportunities to bring life back to the corpse of the economy before it withers away, so that these strugglers who would have gotten rid of short-sighted partisanship contribute to lightening the burdens of the helpless citizens and to returning Algierians' lost smiles.

In any case, the Algerian cannot allow foreigners to interfere in his affairs. Furthermore, he cannot allow himself to be the reason behind such interference. The coming period is difficult, and the new regime might find itself forced to put a freeze on the right to strike to avert a deterioration of the situation. At that point foreign forces which are lying in wait for us will say that Algeria does not respect individual liberties and will work to choke us and destroy any hope we have of going forward.

This conjunction therefore compels us to rally around this man coming from afar who did not come for revenge or out of love for responsibility, for he has been offered responsibilities under better conditions than these and refused them. He did not come either out of a desire for wealth, for wealth was looted in that year [unspecified]. Let us rally around him so that we do not give the opportunity to those whom we know very well to strike and humiliate us once more. What is more, since when has the Algerian accepted having others look at him with compassion and pity? Let us together defend our dignity, pride, and even our known roughness, if you like.

Press Assesses Government, Boudiaf Leadership

LD1801122792 Algiers APS in English 1138 GMT 18 Jan 92

["Algeria Press"—APS headline]

[Text] Algiers 18/01/92 (APS)—The creation of the Higher State Committee (H.C.E) under the Presidency of Mohamed Boudiaf attracts the attention of all commentaries of the daily press. LE MATIN daily writes "the Constitution of H.C.E put the political parties that keep pretending to be democratic in one of the most ambigious positions". "These disturbing actions begin to riddle disarray within the ranks of the militants of these parties" the daily carries on, stressing besides this paradox that also shows the limits of the partisan strategies regarding the future of democracy in Algeria, there is another element: the reactions of condemnation and reject of the Higher State Committee almost exclusively on the part of political apparatus. Moreover, LE MATIN tackles FLN (Le Front de Liberation Nationale) [National Liberation Front] and FFS (Le Front des Forces Socialistes) [Socialist Forces Front] initiatives towards FIS (Le Front Islamique du Salut) [Islamic Salvation Front] noting "when one sees all changes of positions, one can wonder about what sort of occult goals this initiative follows".

As for AL-WATAN daily, it writes under the title "Iron Hand", "the series of political consultation the Higher State Committee will soon initiate comprises two warnings one against FIS suspected of monopolizing or exploiting religion for suspicious goals" and the other against FLN that only serves as an alibi when it openly attacks the new power and discloses its contacts with the FIS after having denied it.

Under the title "The Voice of Duty", AL-MUJAHID daily writes in a commentary "the idea of progress that

animates Mohamed Boudiaf has nothing equal but his faith to set the country back on its feet again, repair the tears caused to the society through parties and comfort Algeria in its stability and in its march towards democracy and modernity". "A positive spirit," the daily stresses, "he relies on all Algerians to accomplish this holy mission to which he called on the nation and that overtakes our individual existence". Eventually, AL-MUJAHID concludes "Boudiaf as a real democrat calls to national solidarity and no patriot who [word indistinct] deserves the name could not ignore nor turn a deaf ear to the voice of [word indistinct]".

The Daily "LE QUOTIDIEN D'ALGERIE" presents on its turn in a commentary entitled "Out of the Circle" Boudiaf as being "a heavy truck in terms of history and legitimacy, mainly that he has no complex vis-a-vis the FLN party which he considers as dead politically and historically since it was transformed in 1963 into a unique party". "Will Boudiaf, this unknown on the political scene," LE QUOTIDIEN D'ALGERIE wondered, "change the plans that have been woven by the protagonist during the years of the Chadli reign, or will he be another fuse, an important one, of a same strategy but whose scheme has already been elaborated at another level?" "However," the daily concluded, "the economic question will certainly influence the future debates that will [word indistinct] the intentions and the level of credibility of all".

Under the title "Dislocation", the daily "ALGER-REPUBLICAIN", underlines that "those who met the leadership of the FIS did not do that in transparence as [word indistinct], but in confusion" and added that "by their deafening din they have sponsorized obscurantism (...) the anger is increasing and it is coming from the basis and announces reactions that [word indistinct] the politician calculations and leaderships who compromised themselves with the enemies of the [words indistinct] that took all the risks to save the Republic and democracy must close their ranks and not [words indistinct] trap of diversions and get rid of fundamentalism", the newspaper concluded.

Atomic Energy Inspectors Tour Nuclear Reactor

LD2001015992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] At the initiative of the Algerian Government, two inspectors from Vienna's International Atomic Energy Agency paid a technical visit to the Essalam nuclear reactor at Ain Oussera which is being completed with the cooperation of the PRC. This was confirmed in a communique by the ministry in charge of technological research and the environment.

This technical visit will allow the secretariat of the agency to directly review the construction of the nuclear reactor and the progress of its works.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Discusses Lockerbie, Peace Process

LD1701103292 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 2034 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to members of the Arab Parliamentary Union in Tripoli on 15 January—recorded]

[Excerpts] In reality, despite the fact that we are one people and one homeland from the ocean [Atlantic] to the Gulf and your presence here in your home among your kinfolk and assuming your pan-Arab duty, despite all this we are unable to find the words to express our appreciation at this meeting and this presence today. This delights us and boosts the morale of your Libyan brothers and sisters who have their fingers on the trigger waiting to repel aggression.

We have printed posters. When Hitler was preparing to land on the British Isles after the air raid that is called the Battle of Britain, the English people took it seriously and thought that it was in fact possible for him to carry out the landing. Therefore, they published posters, despite the fact that there was no comparison at that time, by their own admission, between Britain and Hitler's power which defeated Europe and took France and the low countries—Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands—which he used as a base from which to attack. So the English people, naturally, they really showed courage, patience [word indistinct] went and published posters saying We Are Waiting for You and So Are the Fish. [laughter] We now also write on our posters We Are Waiting for You and So Are the Fish. [passage omitted]

Quite a long time ago it was just slogans and hopes; we used to read about it in books. Now it is a reality for us to say: Arab unity is an inevitable necessity. In the past, we used to write it on a banner, and we used to read about it—Arab unity, Arab unity. Perhaps we did not use to pay too much attention to it, and now it has become a fact; we have realized that Arab unity is a necessity. Without Arab unity there is no chance for us to live from now on as small states, dwarf statelets. Here is Europe waking up a giant, with, in fact, 30 states to form a European confederation. And there is Latin America, with Brazil yet another giant, and Argentina, Equador, and who else, Venezuela, I think; four giants in Latin America have decided to form a bloc in 1994. [passage omitted]

Now that communism is finished—rather, Marxism is finished—the opponent facing them [the West], or in fact the international fact facing them is Islam. They consider the Arab nation as the head of Islam. If they crush this head, the body dies, the purpose being the West taking control of the globe. This is the fact. They say Marxism is finished; confrontation is now with Islam. Islam ends with the end of the Arab nation.

What is happening now, brothers, is not the issue of pan-America; otherwise we would appear like children, and they

would laugh at us if we believed that the issue is that of Lockerbie. What cause goes back five years? This is paper in a big file. Who do we take this paper to alone after five years? Why not take the raid against Libya in 1986, which was unjust and an act of aggression, for it was later proved that Libya was innocent. Are they going to bring back the lives of the children who died? Eighty children died in the raids on Tripoli and Banghazi.

You should distribute to all the brothers pictures of the children. They did not hit only my house; they hit a street in Banghazi and another in Tripoli. A street just like that with the aim of intentionally killing children and terrorizing the people. Whole families died.

If a case is five years old, it goes back to 1988. Why do not we take the file of the raid against Libya? Fine, we investigate it and turn over to the court those who carried out the mass killing, and submit it to the Security Council, if the Security Council is now becoming a criminal court. There is the Iranian plane that they brought down intentionally. Fine, are we sheep and they human?! Is our blood water and their blood plasma?! Why not examine the case of the Iranian plane, the raid against Libya, the hijacking of the Egyptian plane, the hijacking of the Libyan plane that they brought down in occupied Palestine while on its way to Damascus, and also the Montreal treaty, Geneva, and others, and the resolutions issued by the Security Council and the UN secretary general which they turned to.

They all speak about interference in civil aviation—that is to say, they prohibit intereference in civil aviation, and prohibit forcing a civilian aircraft to land or divert its course, or the carrying out of an act of aggression against a civilian aircraft such as blowing it up. There is the airliner that was full of innocent Egyptians and Libyans—the passengers were Egyptians, Libyans, and some of other nationalities—and which was downed by the Israelis over the Sinai. It was a Boeing airliner. Why didn't they force it to land? They shot it down; more than 200 people were killed. Nothing happened to the Israelis. Bring out this file. No dossier was produced regarding Sabra and Shatila [refugee camps].

Sharon, the spoiled child of the West, is a terrorist and against peace and against the Madrid conference and against the Palestinian people's right; he is building settlements daily. He is a terrorist. He slaughtered children at Sabra and Shatila. He is the number one terrorist in the world and is openly hostile to peace. When he visits the West he is spoiled and respected. Never mind about the terrorism of Sharon, Shamir, and Begin, who are known and responsible for the massacres of Dayr Yasin, and all the other massacres; he is now a minister in the Israeli Government. He was deliberately given the housing portfolio so that he could build settlements in the occupied territories. They laugh at us and think we are gullible. They asked Sharon the extremist and the terrorist: Who is a good Arab as far as the Israelis are concerned? He replied: A dead Arab. The dead Arab is good for Israel, but a live Arab is harmful for Israel.

I once held a seminar in Paris, and I faced Jewish professors. They said: You know the problem between you and us. I said: Yes, we are Arabs and you are Zionists. They said: No, not at all; the problem is that the Jewish plan has not yet succeeded in North Africa. What is the Jewish plan, I asked. They replied: It is the Judaization of North Africa so that Israel extends from North Africa to the Middle East.

He told me: If this plan had succeeded, and if you are a Jew and I am a Jew, there is no problem. However, we unfortunately failed in this plan. Now you are an Arab in North Africa, and I am still a Jew in Palestine. They said to me: We are gathering the Falashas, the Kharaz from any place. These are fairy tales as far as the modern world is concerned. They said: No, the Torah said so. The Torah? What did the other man say? Moses said: Until I reach the delta of the two seas or I wait a while.

I told them: Here you are, Sharm al-Shaykh. You took it [words indistinct]. They said: No, the delta of the two seas means the Nile Delta; it means that Moses must reach the Nile Delta, the delta of the two seas which is the branch of the Rosetta and the branch of the Dimiatta, or I wait a period of time. I asked: What is your interpretaion of I wait a period of time? Will Moses and his (?boy) wait a period of time? They said: No, it means that the Israelites will, even if they have to wait a period of time, but they must eventually reach the delta of the two seas. They said: It did not mean Moses would do this as Moses will not live for a long period of time; Moses' life is limited to a certain number of years. They said: It means that Israelis either reach the delta of the two seas or they must continue to struggle for a long period of time or periods of time.

They said: Our capital is not Jerusalem. I said: Good; thank God for this [words indistinct]. They said: We are holding Jerusalem for the Christians; thus, the Jews will have done the Christians a favor by holding Jerusalem (?for pilgrimage); afterward, they place the city under Christian control and it becomes a place for pilgrimage after we have taken it away from the Arabs. They were asked: Where would you go? They said: Cairo is our capital [words indistinct]. They said: We must reach the delta; we will go to the delta of the two seas. They said: The capital of the Jewish state should be Cairo; North Africa must be Judaized; we must take the Nile—and not just a stream from the Nile—to irrigate the Negev Desert; no, we must have our capital in the middle of the Nile, over the Nile.

Our brothers in Egypt, will they believe that 25 million Jews will gather in the small Palestine? Will they feel confident that a new Zionist explosion will not take place and reach the Nile? All the information indicates this. How will this be realized?

There is a prominent member of U.S. intelligence named Wilson. The whole world knows his story because he is now in prison after he was sentenced to 90 years in U.S. prisons. Libyan intelligence recruited him; he worked

with us in the seventies. This is not a secret; he is with them, and the whole world knew this in the seventies. They sentenced him to 90 years; they organized how to kidnap him; they kidnapped him while he was in Europe; they took him to the United States and sentenced him to 90 years. Why did they sentence him to 90 years? Because he exposed the U.S. strategic plan. What was the plan? He told us—and this I communicated to the Arab leaders—that the United States would occupy the Gulf, lay its hand on the Gulf to take the oil.

The second phase is for the United States to occupy North Africa, and the third phase will see Israel taking Egypt and Syria. The story then ends. He told us this dangerous plan. When I informed some Arab brothers about it, they laughed at that time—this is prior to the Gulf crisis and Kuwait and Iraq—they laughed and said: No, no, the man is talking nonsense. When the Kuwait affair took place, I told them: Brothers, it looks as if it was a fact. When we came out of Kuwait, Libya emerged. That is it; it has become a fact. Therefore, the phase that follows Libya is for Israel to march to music toward Egypt and Syria. What is the U.S. role in this? The United States destroys the strong Arab countries.

Regrettably, we were against Iraq when it entered Kuwait; as Arabs, we were against an Arab state occupying an Arab state. We said that Kuwait was a small state and should feel assured to live beside its big sister. We always said that we should strive for Arab unity. If unity between Iraq and Kuwait was achieved, we would have applauded that—unity of their own free will as true brothers. However, it came by way of invasion.

I was against King Hassan II when he invaded the Sahara, despite the fact that there were 40,000 people who would not have constituted a state. I told him, however, that the 40,000 were not a flock of sheep for you to invade in this way; therefore, I would arm them and fight on their side. Actually, we fought for many years; we were the ones who created Polisario.

Naturally, this is [words indistinct] because now with King Hassan we are in one group like brothers, working hand in hand, which is why we can talk about these things. When we established unity and agreed to gather the Arab nation, I ended everything, and I told him: We will not arm the Polisario from today; we armed them because you invaded them as if they were a flock of sheep. As long as there is a referundum and this group expresses its view...[changes thought] I told him: I wish, and I will make an effort for them to say yes to Morocco as I do not want another dwarf state. Since then, we pledged that to each other; there was no support for Polisario—arms or the like—against Morocco. King Hassan himself knows that; he declared it. We are against a big Arab state when it invades a small Arab state. I hope that in the referundum Polisario will say yes for unity between the Sahara and Morocco. We will support it. If we are required to make any effort for this unity, then I am ready to do just that. If there is anything that realizes unity between Kuwait and Iraq or between Iraq and Syria, and you all know my efforts in this regard—and the brothers in Yemen, praise be to God, lived up to my expectations, and their struggle was crowned with unity—but we do not accept that Iraq should take Kuwait or Egypt take Libya.

We are against this method. Despite this, the brothers in Iraq said: No, the United States is definitely coming to destroy Iraq, with or without Kuwait; because we were certain that the United States would come to Iraq and destroy it, we took the initiative of taking Kuwait. We laughed at this interpretation and said that this interpretation is unreasonable. An operation to assassinate a small Arab state took place. We are for unity but against its assassination in this manner. Indeed, we all stood against this, and we are against it today. Regrettably, what the brothers in Iraq said—no one can now face up to it—when they said that the United States is coming to Iraq, they sent word to us saying: Thanks be to God, Libya's turn has come. We told you that Libya would follow Iraq. Did Libya occupy Kuwait? Did you do anything? Did you occupy a neighboring state? It came to you. Thus, the United States has decided to destroy Iraq, then Libya, then Syria, and then Algeria—in this order of priority—and then to advance to the sound of music on Egypt. When Egypt wakes up in the morning and finds that Libya no longer exists, that Syria no longer exists, and that Iraq no longer exists, that will be it. We can see that the conspiracy against Algeria has begun. What will Egypt do? What will the United States do?

They say: By God, this is a conflict between the Egyptians and the Israelis; this is a historic conflict with which we have nothing to do. Egypt pleads for the United States to intervene? Fine, we will convene a Security Council session calling on the sides to stop the fighting and show restraint. If the fighting does not stop, what can I do? The United States says: I cannot force the Israelis to halt anything. How then do you force Iraq, force Libya, force the Arab countries?! Security Council resolutions should be implemented; if you do not implement the resolutions—you have a respite of 30 days—you will be forced to implement them. This is what is happening, and this is the scenario being applied to Libya. This is what they are now trying to pass at the Security Council. Fine, why do they not give the Israelis a warning to the effect that if you do not withdraw from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the United Nations will create a force and expel you? [unidentified speaker from the floor interrupts to point out that the Israelis are expelling civilians]

This is the sixth Security Council resolution which the Israelis have ignored. Why doesn't the United States force them to respect Security Council resolutions? Should an unjust and false Security Council resolution be passed against Libya tomorrow, the United States will implement it by force against Libya. This is clear, brothers. What injures our souls is that they think that we do not know, that they consider us simple-minded, consider us shepherds, stupid, ignorant, thus their lies, falsehoods, and their hellish plot. They could probably

fool us, carry out the plot, and dismember the Arab nation one part after another.

There is no Lockerbie issue; this plane took off from Europe and fell in Europe. What does Libya have to do with it? Did it call on Libya? Did it have Libyans aboard? Did it fall over Libya? Land at a Libyan airport? What have we got to do with it? It took off from their cities and fell on their cities. What have we got to do with it? It is a five-year-old issue. They said: We found a piece as small as a fingernail which indicates that it was a timer which Libya bought from Switzerland. One wonders if Switzerland made just one timer and not thousands which it sold to all parts of the world. Also, five years have passed. Is this not enough time to allow them to fabricate a thing like this? We said: What is the matter with you? You have been hiding behind the screen for five years. You could have fabricated these things.

They said: There is a witness. However, five years is enough to brainwash a man and create another man in his place; you tell him to do anything, and he will do it. Is this not logically conceivable?

Legally, the UN Security Council... [changes thought] What a nice thing it would be if the UN Security Council turned into a criminal court. Two are involved in a criminal case going to the UN Security Council. How nice. The Japanese newspaper with the largest circulation—I believe it was the JAPAN (?TIMES)—said yesterday: If this resolution to which the Western powers refer is actually passed by the UN Security Council, it will be a very serious precedent in history because the UN Security Council would be turned into a criminal court.

We, as a Libyan state, are governed by people's congresses. Have the congresses passed any resolutions or said anything? No. Therefore, this case should be brought to a judge. As a people's state, we cannot say that we decided anything. We heard of the charge; we referred it to the Supreme Court; the court appointed a judge and a board of inquiry; they summoned them—you and you—and asked: Did you blow up the planes? They said: No. The lawyer came and said: You are the judge who contacted my clients. What is your evidence that this one is the one who blew up the plane? I received this indictment. Where is the physical evidence attached to it? He said: I have none. The lawyer told him: Contact those who made these charges against my clients.

The Libyan judge communicated with the United Kingdom, the United States, and France on giving us the evidence so that I can put these people on trial. They refused. They did not cooperate, nor did they respond. They wrote the opposite, that Libya did not cooperate and did not respond. Do you see? The whole world now is a witness. It does not worry us whether the world is afraid or not. The entire world is now a witness that Libya is the one that responded and cooperated and showed flexibility and respect for civilization and respect for international law to the farthest limits. Ordinary individuals and organizations throughout the whole world believe this.

Okay, you say you have two people who are accused. We have no knowledge that they are accused. Okay, they have their rights.

According to their accusation—it was not Libya who accused them—they said: You have two people who stand accused. We believed them and said: Alright, arrest them. We arrested them and asked them: How could you commit such an abominable crime? They replied: We did not. They then said: Where is the proof against us? The Libyan judge said: As a matter of fact, I have no evidence, but these states have accused you. They said: Alright, ask these states to provide the evidence they have. These states said: We do not trust the Libyan judge. Libya told them: Alright, we seek the truth; if you do not trust the Libyan judge, bring the U.S., the UK, or the French judge, or bring Arab or African judges, to Libya; come to Libya; Libya is open to you; bring neutral experts from any state in the world and ask them whether the [word indistinct] related to Libya or not. Does the evidence actually condemn these two people or not?

Let us suppose, for the sake of argument, that two Libyan citizens carried out an act like this. Why should that involve the Libyan state?

Why do you speak of banning air traffic into and out of Libya and banning the supply of spare parts for Libyan aircraft? Is this a method to be used by a civilized person? Is it right to deny civilian aircraft carrying innocent people from one state to another spare parts so that the airliners will not fall into the sea? Is this any less than the crime committed against the Pan Am flight? No. Downing an airliner by depriving it of spare parts is the same as blowing it up. If a Libyan airliner takes off with inadequate spare parts because of the imposed ban, its captain will say that he cannot cross the sea because the spare parts are lacking. The airliner will fall; the airliner crashes, carrying 200 or 300 people. Who downed it? The United States downed it because the United States stopped the supply of spare parts.

There is now a ban on the supply of spare parts to Libyan Arab Airlines' aircraft despite the fact, brothers, that this company is well-known the world over; it is known to be the best in terms of service, and it has had no accidents. Ask throughout the world, ask foreign airlines: How do you feel about Libyan Arab Airlines? Instead of giving it an international award, it is being punished. What is Libyan Arab Airlines' crime?

Then there is the economic blockade and oil. What is the crime of the Libyan people, the children, women, families, the farmers?

They called for military action. Fair enough. First, there is nothing that warrants military action. However, as long as this is the objective, there is no need to create the

pretext of Lockerbie or Pan Am. You should say: We want to destroy Libya after having destroyed Iraq and Kuwait. This was a plot against Kuwait, as well as against Iraq. As you can see, Kuwait is now drowning in oil, in oil lakes, and in a catastrophe. Iraq, for its part, is being humiliated by them in front of the Arab nation.

Fair enough; we withdrew from Kuwait. Why then pursue it? Why pursue Iraq? It withdrew from Kuwait and announced that it would respect it and respect Kuwaiti-Iraqi borders. If there is another claim that Kuwait would like to present against Iraq, we the Arabs should sort it out. As for the prisoners, I believe they returned them. If they did not, I am in charge of the issue of prisoners; I was given the list. This is our issue; we should return them to Iraq [as heard].

The United States used this as a pretext to put their hands on the Arab nation. Brothers, this is a campaign, a new campaign, of pouncing on the Arab nation. This is a confrontation against Islam, it is true. Undoubtedly, Islam will be crushed. They keep threatening an Arab state. To be honest, our Arab brothers exerted great efforts on Libya's behalf. Finally, the United States got angry and told them to get out of the way.

Good. At the end of the day, what is the value of relations between the Arabs and the United States? Even with U.S. Arab brothers? What is the value of these relations if you humiliate us in this way, destroy our brothers, and kill us one after the other? What is the value of these relations? There is no need for such relations. Is it logical to see a peace process for the benefit of the Israelis that is taking place in Washington in parallel with preparations that are being made in Washington to destroy Libya? This is what is required now.

We no longer have any cards with which to threaten; we do not need peace; to the hell with it. You cannot threaten and prepare to launch a war against Libya and, yet, at the same time, call on us to make peace with the Israelis. This should stop; all this should stop; that is it; there should no longer be any negotiations. This is what is required. There should be no peace negotiations at all until the whole of this nation, from the ocean to the Gulf, is respected.

The United States said that negotiations are the only way out in this era. We welcome this; we all preach this. Fair enough; let us see you have negotiations with Libya. It said: No, we refuse negotiations with Libya. How about negotiations with the PLO? It said: We refuse to negotiate with the PLO. Did you not claim that negotiations are the ideal way in this era and that this is a civilized way? Then apply it to everybody. [passage omitted]

We told them: You the Americans have convinced us that negotiations are the best way—to the extent that you made us sit in front of empty seats to negotiate with them for four days. Fine, persuade yourselves to negotiate with Libya, with the Arabs, amicably. They said no, there will be no negotiations with Libya. Why there are negotiations with Israel and none with Libya? If we believed this nonsense, it would mean that we had become a nation of simple-minded and stupid people, and this indeed would not be right. The Americans now despise us [word indistinct]. They regard people as stupid and call them their friend until they destroy their neighbor and then turn on them. [passage omitted]

America has no friends; it is one of the colonialist states that has no friends. It has only slaves or enemies. Al-Qadhdhafi is not our slave; therefore he is an enemy. I do not wish to be either a slave or an enemy. This is what I told them. I am not a slave, nor an enemy, but rather an ordinary friend. They said there is no ordinary friend in the U.S. lexicon; one is either an agent or an enemy. [passage omitted]

The danger is not to Libya; Libya cannot be harmed because it is first of all open to its Arab nation, and it is a desert which can even absorb nuclear bombs. We do not have huge complexes which could be destroyed. We have two or three power stations. To the hell with them. [Interjection from the floor: God will help]

By God, we will link up with Tunisia or Egypt for electricity, or return to oil lamps. We have an iron complex and the petrochemical complex at Ras Lanuf, and because they see these as a strength for the region, perhaps they will destroy them, but we will build later.

The Arab nation, however, would be destroyed—its dignity and future. It would be a veto against the future of the Arab nation. There would be neither unity nor stability. They saw Libya stable; in Libya, wealth, authority, and weapons have become the property of the people; the people's authority has been established. Have you ever heard of a demonstration in Libya, or a strike in Libya, or a sit-in in Libya, or a coup in Libya? No, because the people now rule themselves by themselves. I am outside the authority. I can go live in any Arab country for one or two or three years as I have no links with Libyan authority. Power is now self-managed by the people's congresses and the people's committees, committees and congresses everywhere. They saw this stability and said: We must destroy it. They believe that it is impossible for an Arab citizen to enjoy Libyan oil; they do not want an Egyptian, or a Tunisian, or a Libyan, or a Sudanese to take Libyan oil; they want an American to take the oil; they want the Israelis to take it; they covet the oil.

Look at the conspiracy being carried out. What is happening in Algeria is a conspiracy. All these things everywhere are a conspiracy. This is one single plan. I regret having referred to this topic as if you do not know about it. [passage omitted]

They want to reach the Nile Delta. [laughs; words indistinct] The thing we have to emphasize now from the practical aspect is the question of the delegations. I have seen that you have reached the heart of the matter. You have chosen the correct course and the proper method; you actually have formed delegations who will set off for the world—governments and popular institutions, if

they go from now, after this emergency conference—to explain the issue. This will be considered a genuine and practical action. Our efforts should be concentrated on the fact that the case is a legal case. It should also be emphasized that it is Libya who has responded and that they are the ones who are intransigent and have not responded. [passsage omitted]

God forbid,if any deterioration occurred and they became arrogant, I would like Arab delegations to ensure that the Arab parliaments meet in their own countries; every Arab parliament should meet to confront the enemy. If Libya is boycotted they should also adopt a boycott and should ask the Arab governments which are supposed to be answerable to them to boycott the West if Libya is boycotted. If there is going to an attack against Libya, the battle should begin in every Arab country.

Libya is merely a forward battle line. If they cross it they will advance on the rest. We are not children who can be tricked by someone saying: This is a limited conflict and it is merely for punitive purposes only.

The truth is that the moves have come from the Arab heads of state— Arab governments, presidents, kings, shaykhs, foreign ministries, the Arab League. They and the Arab popular organizations were crowned with your esteemed conference; in truth all this conferred respect on the Arab nation. For the first time the Arab nation stood as one man. It felt that it is a nation that cannot accept insults, that others must not go beyond their limits, and that no one must encroach on it. It is because we have had enough of this. This has come at a time when they have been asking for negotiations so that peace can be undertaken for the Israelis, the usurpers of Palestine. They brandish the sword against us. What a contradiction.

The point which we should use as a threat is this: If there is any threat against Libya there will be no peace process. Stop. It must be halted, in Egypt or Madrid or Washington. Despite the sincere efforts made by the Egyptian president, if he finds that all that he has done does not find favor among the Americans, who are planning to destroy a fraternal neighbor, this would be an insult to him and a blow to weaken him. Egypt would be next. The peace process in which Egypt has been involved since 1974 would once again be a source of pressure.

What is the benefit of peace if peace insults the Arab nation? One must reexamine the peace agreement with the Israelis from its beginning, from the beginning of [words indistinct] and not only Madrid and Washington. No, we must go back to the beginning—the entire peace process. We must use it as a threat. It is a strong card. During one year when they were giving aid to Egypt, they stopped this aid and gave it to the Israelis. President Husni Mubarak himself told them: What do you think this is, charity or a favor? He told them: This is the price of peace. Egypt entered the peace, and this is the price of peace.

Now we must explain to them: What is the price of peace? Does the price of peace mean that the Arab nation is laid to waste, and Libya destroyed, and that afterwards the Arab nation is destroyed and humiliated? Why should we be a sacrifice to the U.S elections, or Lockerbie, or the hostages, or the Israelis? You should see the extent of U.S. contempt. Direct peace negotiations for the first time in history, and threats against Libya. See the encroachment. See the contempt; they think that the Arab nation is stupid and that one can kill one man and dance with the other one. [passage omitted]

But we cannot force people and tell them to go to a state in defiance of the law, in defiance of the law. [passage omitted] They want us to intervene and demolish all the laws. If we did a thing like that as a state, lawyers and the largest law firms in the world would be filing a suit against us for human rights violations. It is a serious precedent. [passage omitted]

It is not only a matter of sovereignty. It is a legal matter. Apart from sovereignty, it is a legal matter; in other words, you force the judge to hand over these people despite the law. Despite the law. This is what they say; Libya must. I really believe that if this Arab pressure does not lead to the result that they become aware and return to their senses, this will then mean that there is a real intention to scorn the Arab will and trample on the dignity of the nation, and then on its body. This is what is apparent. Thus first the matter of delegations, and second if anything happens, we must decide in this session that parliaments immediately meet in your countries and ask the governments what the parliaments want. Parliaments represent the people and are elected by the people. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified audience member] We would like to know the stand of Arab leaders toward the Arab people, or peoples. Despite the fact that we were divided and became peoples, all the Arab people are by the side of the Libyan people and cannot abandon them. We would, however, like to know the stands of Arab leaders.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] By God, to be honest, I must say that all Arab governments and Arab rulers, kings, presidents, ministers, amirs, and shaykhs are all by the side of Libya, with heart and soul. I cannot say that any one of them failed to do his best, or blamed Libya, or did not make efforts. In reality, all of them made efforts; however, what gives us pain is that if the United States or Britain did not then respond, what does this mean? This means that they have no consideration for us, and they even have no consideration for their friends.

There is no consideration given to them. How? I am your friend, I mediate with you, and you say no to me, I do not listen to what you say. This is not a humiliation for Libya; it is a humiliation for their friend.

[Unidentified audience member] Sir, we are saying that if everyone in his country says I am with you. then one will ask: But in fact what did he do? Your excellency ought to order, or ask, your Arab citizens to act if something happens. We, if something happens, have only limited capabilities. Why are the leaders waiting

while time is quickly passing? The Arab leaders, if they are serious about real support—I am speaking on behalf of the Kuwaiti people, and I have nothing to do with the leaders—if they are really serious, they can act and prove their presence. But if it is only support through the press, microphones, and television...

[Al-Qadhdhafi, interrupting] As a matter of fact, they have acted, made contacts, and some of them had telephone conversations with the U.S. President, with the latter's secretary of state, and with the English president [as heard] and the French one. There have been personal contacts and visits, but if after this they do not respond, then it is a humiliation for our Arab brothers who are friends of these states. [passage omitted]

In general, we in Libya are satisfied with the fact that our nation surrounds us on all sides with support, challenge, and a readiness for the confrontation. This, as we said, will undoubtedly boost the morale of your Libyan brothers and sisters. We also feel satisfaction, on the other hand, with the fact that the whole world has appreciated Libya's stand and has recorded their civilized and legal stand. The world witnesses that Libya is the country which has submitted its international problems to the International Court of Justice more than any other country in the world—i.e. (?it leads the way)—and it is the only state which has submitted three cases to the International Court of Justice.

First, the overwhelming majority of the world's countries did not submit their problems to the International Court of Justice, and the few who did so did not submit more than one case. The International Court of Justice has witnessed that this country is the one which is respected among international law circles and which solves its problems in accordance with civilization, modernity, humanitarianism, and its principles and in accordance with international law and the UN Charter.

We submitted all our border problems to the International Court of Justice, i.e. we have submitted three cases. Thus, we have set a record in addressing the International Court of Justice to solve these cases with small states near us. If it is a matter of using force, we can certainly do so; however, this is not our logic, for we are 1,000 times more civilized than they are. We are the people of civilization and the message, and we have no doubt in ourselves. Civilization and the (?future of the world) do not produce missiles and tanks; they produce doctrines, ideas, and human values. [passage omitted]

Libya's style is in harmony with the character of its nation, religion, beliefs, civilization, and traditions. On the other hand, we feel satisfied because we have done all that we really could. Libya has made every effort and has won all of the support. If this does not help, we will have our backs to the wall, and I will tell you to show courage, patience, and the conviction that in the end we will triumph and we will enter the war satisfied, and even if we die we will be at rest.

The struggle continues! [applause]

JANA: Lockerbie Aircraft Crashed Due To Storm

LD2101222692 Tripoli JANA in English 1823 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Commentary by JANA's political editor]

[Text] Tripoli, 21 January (JANA)—'When the Pan Am aircraft suddenly crashed over Lockerbie, it was declared then that this type would not crash as a result of technical or natural cause and that it must have been inevitably caused by someone. And when it was said that on that day the weather was stormy and bad over Lockerbie and that a British air craft of the same type crashed shortly after the Lockerbie incident in the same area and landed on a motorway and that the Pan Am aircraft must have been hit by a storm which made it land on a fuel depot at Lockerbie setting fire to and causing explosions to the aircraft. They said no. The West said it was a bomb explosion so it should be a bomb explosion. Even if the weather was stormy you have to say it was good. It is a goat even if it fly. And now and Airbus, which is more advanced than the Pan Am aircraft, falls and crashes suddenly. Why not assume that it was carried out by someone considering that an advanced aircraft, as claimed, could not crash as a result of a technical or a natural cause. We are therefore before two choices. Either we accept that the Pan Am aircraft, and others like it, may crash as a result of technical or natural cause hence the crash of the Pan Am aircraft as a result of this cause is a strong possibility especially that the weather that night, as it was confirmed in Lockerbie, was bad indeed. And that the aircraft in fact crashed, as it was established from the sight, on a fuel depot causing inevitable explosions to the aircraft. Or the second choice which is French Airbus which crashed yesterday [as received] was caused by a bomb explosion and we therefore choose a victim, according to our mood, to stick this charge to. Then we submit the matter to the Security Council of the United Nations. [no closing quotation mark as received]

Attempt to Recruit Russian Scientists Denied

LD2101161292 Tripoli JANA in English 1437 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, Ay-Annar [January] 21 (JANA)—The British SUNDAY EXPRESS published an article full of allegations and false and fabricated information regarding the Great Jamahariyah as it alleged that Libya had lured some nuclear Russian scientists with astronomical salaries.

The British paper quoted Igor Cherniyev as saying that he was working on a top secret Libyan nuclear research programme since last September.

JANA's international affairs editor said those statements come within a strategy of familiar targets and intentions perpetrated by a group of Western intelligence newspapers and magazines including the SUNDAY EXPRESS.

He says that the Great Jamahariyah has confirmed more than once that it was against the acquisition and manufacture of weapons of mass destruction and accordingly it is not involved in the scramble perpetuated by some Western and Zionist states to lure Russian nuclear scientists following the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

JANA's international affairs editor pointed out that the British SUNDAY EXPRESS and its backers have an amazing ability to turn a blind eye to what they do not want to see as it overlooks the growth and progress of the Zionist nuclear arsenal and does not mention Israeli subterranean nuclear installations in the Negev Desert where experts and scientists started manufacturing nuclear warheads in the late 1960's.

The paper neglected to speak about the Israeli nuclear bomb and did not mention the Israeli nuclear programme and the method of acquiring its technology.

Nor did it tackle the issue of how information was obtained by the American secret satellite KH11.

The paper did not speak about South Africa's cooperation with the Zionists in the launch of the joint nuclear missile in 1979 known as "Mystery Flash" in the South Atlantic.

The JANA international editor said that the Great Jamahariyah which has signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is not in need of a certificate of innocence from any party in this respect particularly as the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency declared last week in the German DIE WELT that Libya is among the states committed to the agency agreement.

JANA's international affairs editor concluded his comment by saying that the attempts to implicate the Jamahariyah in such issues have made their targets and aims very well known as they are intending to distort the noble stances of the Great Jamahariyah and detract from its development and the creation of progress for mankind.

Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Damm Denies Report of Coup

NC2101194292 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 18 Jan 92 p 1

[Text] Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Damm, general coordinator of Egyptian-Libyan relations, has denied that an attempted coup has taken place in Libya. He said that the Libyan Government is in the hands of the people, and therefore any coup attempt is unlikely.

Kuwait

Prime Minister Speaks on Conflict With Iraq

NC1901120792 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Speech By His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al- Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, at the inauguration of the World Islamic Conference for the Release of Prisoners of War and Detainees Held in the Prisons of the Iraqi Regime, at Kuwait University in Kuwait on 19 January—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage with Koranic verse omitted] O honorable brothers and guests: May God's peace and blessing be upon you. I salute you with God's blessed and glorious greetings and am pleased, on behalf of the amir, government, and people of Kuwait, to welcome this great crowd of honorable and prominent men of religion, science, and knowledge. I appreciate your response to Kuwait's invitation and your eagerness to take part in this world Islamic meeting in solidarity with our efforts to seek the release of the hostages and prisoners of wars from Kuwait and other countries, who the Iraqi regime insists on detaining with injustice and aggression. This is done in disregard of the will of the international community, in breech of all international charters, conventions, and laws, in violation of the teachings of our noble religion and the other heavenly messages, and in violation of and indifference to Arab ethics, Islamic values, and humanitarian principles. [passage omitted]

O honorable brothers: Our problem with the ruling regime in Baghdad is not a border dispute. The tyrant of Iraq hastened to settle his border disputes with all the neighboring countries, giving concessions here and there, but he procrastinated and stalled in settling the border dispute with Kuwait. He refused to submit to Kuwait's inalienable rights or delineate the borders in accordance with the agreements concluded between the two countries. Also, our problem with the Baghdad regime is not a problem of oil wells and installations in the border area or of police stations built by Kuwait inside Iraqi territories, as the Iraqi regime claims. Our problem with the ruling regime in Baghdad is a problem of greed, avarice, appetite for expansion and aggression, and the tyranny of power. It is the problem of evil armed with brute force to carry out aggression against the brother and the neighbor. It is the problem of the tyranny that is obsessed with megalomania and that exploits the lives of its people and the resources of its homeland to build empires whose time has passed. Was it Kuwait's fault that God had made it prosperous after centuries of poverty and deprivation? Is it Kuwait's crime that its rulers did not spend its wealth on stockpiling destructive weapons, funding conspiracies of interference in other countries' affairs, and waging futile wars here and there? Instead, they weil-invested its national wealth in building a comprehensive renaissance and establishing a society of prosperity and welfare, the fruits of which are enjoyed by all its people, by those who live on its territories, and by the brothers and friends in various countries. Is it Kuwait's fault that its people are peaceful and known for their tolerance, understanding, and abhorrence of violence? [passage omitted]

O honorable brothers: The Kuwaiti community holds the right to life sacred and respects the dignity and value of mankind. The [word indistinct] of a single individual causes sadness and pain for all of us. The continued absence of hostages held by the Iraqi regime causes worry in every home and grief in every heart. Those who are propagating the slogans of forget and forgive and call for forgetting the past must remember the brutal crimes committed by the troops of the (?treacherous) Iraqi regime against our men, women, children, and elderly. They must remember the lives wrongfully wasted, [words indistinct] the honors violated, and the money usurped. They must recall the tragedies left behind by the tyrant in every home and the distress he inflicted on every family. They must remember the grief of the mothers of martyrs and the pain of the prisoners' children day and night. The Kuwaiti people, the Kuwaiti people, the Kuwaiti people [repetition as heard] reject these phony slogans and do not agree to forget the aggression or the role played by those who assisted it, [applause] those who sided with the wrong against the right, who supported the tyrant in humiliating the people of Kuwait, and who ignored values, ethics, and principles to chase the mirage of interests and benefits. How could we forget this while the blood of our martyrs has not yet dried? How could we forget this while our brothers and sons are still held captive in the tyrant's prisons, suffering much from oppression and torture?

O honorable brothers: The whole world now knows the nature of the tyrant of Baghdad, who fought a destructive war with Muslim neighbor Iran in which hundreds of thousands of youngsters and Muslims were lost. Then he occupied Kuwait in an act of injustice and aggression, killed, tortured, and displaced its people and those living here. Before that, he did not hesitate to use poisonous gas to expel and exterminate his own people. A person like this knows no mercy and does not understand the grief of the families of the martyrs or the pain of the prisoners' children. The tyrant of Baghdad cannot take the initiative in performing humanitarian acts because he takes pleasure in inflicting harm, distress, and hardships on others. He neither understands nor respects any language other than the language of force.

O honorable brothers: The international community, which the tyrant of Baghdad insists on defying by not implementing the Security Council resolutions, must move to compel it to fully implement these resolutions. On behalf of all of you, I appeal to the UN, as the representative of the international community and the conscience of humanity, to intensify its endeavors, double its efforts, and adopt all the necessary measures to force the Iraqi regime to free the hostages and prisoners it is holding.

O honorable brothers: Once again I welcome you among your people and in your country, Kuwait. I hope this meeting will be successful in achieving its good goals. May God guide you, crown your efforts, endeavors, and actions with success, and make you beneficial to the nation. May God's mercy and blessing be upon you. [applause]

Report Views Postwar 'Instability' in Gulf

LD1601200692 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1351 GMT 16 Jan 92

[By Charles Miller, PRESS ASSOCIATION defense correspondent]

[Text] Political instability in the Gulf is as strong as ever despite the coalition defeat of Saddam Husayn, according to a report today. The Middle East remains "fossilised in the old order" with established leaders resisting democratic reforms, says the International Institute for Strategic Studies report. Kuwait's al- Sabah regime has reneged on promises of political liberalisation and strengthened central control, it says. Kuwait has also tried to boost its political and economic dependence on the West at the expense of its relations with its neighbours.

"Through such actions Kuwait is more widely disliked in the Arab world than ever before and has made any long-term reconciliation with Iraq unlikely," says the author Roland Dannreuther. He says this approach has been widely mirrored by the other states in the Arabian peninsula partly because of the mood of vindictiveness towards Iraq and its Arab supporters. Mr. Dannreuther points out that the promises of the Saudi Royal Family for greater political participation have been quietly shelved.

The Gulf states' lack of political progress has forced the West to accept that a viable security system in the region must depend on a strict military balance between Iraq, Iran, and the peninsula states. "Essentially, the root causes of political instability in the Gulf are just as strong as they have been for the last three decades," says the report. "Iran and Iraq have antagonistic, anti- Western regimes, and the Gulf states are weak and unpopular in the rest of the Middle East. The war has bought time but in the long- term the pattern of destabilising political upheavals will be likely to continue."

Mr. Dannreuther warns that the resistance to democratic reforms will create political and economic frustrations which in the long term will increase the threat of destabilisation. The price of failure in resolving these issues, with the Arab-Israeli conflict and the future status of Iraq, will be high. "It is sufficient just to contemplate that any future war in the Middle East will probably not be fought with conventional weapons alone," says the report.

In his review of the Gulf war, Mr. Dannreuther says it was an "embarrassing" period for Western intelligence agencies. He says three of the intelligence failures were particularly damaging to allied planning—the failure to predict the invasion of Kuwait, a gross overestimation of Iraqi forces facing the coalition, and the limited knowledge of the extent of Iraq's nuclear programme.

Kuwait To Buy Egyptian AMON Missiles

LD2001104492 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0935 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (KUNA)—Military sources revealed that in the middle of the current year Kuwait will obtain a batch of AMON missiles as agreed on recently with Egypt. The Egyptian paper AL- AHRAR, organ of the opposition Liberal Party, quoting these sources, said today that a number of officers and elements of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces had been sent to Egypt to attend training sessions on this batch which consists of artillery and missile batteries, in addition to electronic photography equipment and developed radar systems.

Cairo-Based Broadcasts Extended for 1 Year

LD1701202892 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1232 GMT 17 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo 17 Jan (KUNA)—It was reported here today that it has been decided to continue the transmission of Kuwaiti broadcasting from Cairo for another year, which can then be renewed. An official source at the Egyptian Information Ministry pointed out in a press statement that this decision was made on the basis of an agreement reached between the Kuwaiti Information Minister Badr Jasim al-Ya'qub and his Egyptian counterpart Safwat al-Sharif. This broadcasting was started from Cairo at the beginning of January last year, and its daily transmission runs from 2000 to 0100 [1800 to 2300 GMT].

Oman

Qabus, Jordanian King Hold Talks in Muscat

JN2001155792 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1350 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] Muscat, 20 Jan (WAKH)—Omani-Jordanian talks opened in Muscat today, with His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id leading the Omani side, and King Husayn leading the Jordanian side.

According to the OMANI NEWS AGENCY, the two sides discussed issues of mutual concern and reviewed the latest Arab and international developments and bilateral ties and ways to promote them.

King Husayn arrived in Muscat earlier today.

Qatar

Prominent Citizens Petition Amir for Democracy

NC1801132792 Paris AFP in English 1300 GMT 18 Jan 92

[Text] Manama, Jan 18 (AFP)—Fifty prominent Qataris have called for democracy and an elected legislative council in a petition to the amir, Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani.

According to a copy received by AFP here Saturday, the recent petition expressed "worry and disappointment" over what it called the frequent abuse of power in the emirate.

It also complained over the state of the economy and the education system.

An elected council "with legislative powers and a widened controlling body" was the best means to "guarantee an effective participation of the people," said the 50 signatories from prominent Qatari families.

The council would function according to Islamic principles to set up a "permanent constitution capable of guaranteeing democracy and determining political, social and economic structures."

Qatar has since 1972 had a consultative council made up of 40 members designated by the amir. It gained independence from Britain the previous year.

Oman and the United Arab Emirates—which along with Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Qatar form the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council—also have consultative councils.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia announced on December 30 that his country would likewise set up a consultative council in February and issue the guidelines of what he called a "fundamental law" based on Islamic principles.

In Oman, the body is made up of 60 members, 59 of whom are selected among the top representatives of provinces while its chairman is designated by the government.

The Omani council can call debates on draft laws before they are ratified and could suggest modifications. It can also question cabinet ministers on domestic affairs.

Kuwait is set to hold parliamentary elections by October.

Crude Output Cut 10 Percent To 'Prop Up' Prices

JN2101160692 Manama WAKH in English 1525 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Doha, Jan. 21 (GNA)—Qatari minister of interior and acting minister of finance and petroleum said today the State of Qatar has decided to lower its crude oil output by 10 percent.

In a statement to QATARI NEWS AGENCY, QNA, Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin- Khalifah Al Thani said this decision by the State of Qatar was meant to contribute to maintaining stability in the international oil market and help prop up oil prices which have recently declined. The reduction in Qatar's crude production will continue until the next meeting of OPEC, the minister added.

The Qatari minister emphasised the importance of the decision and praised the role of OPEC.

United Arab Emirates

British Defense Secretary Arrives in Abu Dhabi

Received by Defense Minister

JN2001122492 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1120 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Jan (WAKH)—Thomas King, British secretary of state for defense, and his delegation arrived in Abu Dhabi from Muscat at noon today on a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] as part of a tour of some states in the region.

UAE Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid Al Maktum received the British secretary on arrival. Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi, his assistants, corps commanders, a number of high-ranking officers, and British Ambassador Graham Stuart also received him on arrival.

Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid Al Maktum met with the British secretary this afternoon. Joint bilateral cooperation and means of bolstering it were discussed during the meeting.

Heir Apparent, UK's King Confer

JN2001185992 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1735 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Jan (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the Emirian Armed Forces, received this evening British defense delegation headed by Thomas King, British secretary of state for defense, who is currently visiting the United Arab Emirates as part of his tour of a number of Gulf countries.

They discussed several issues of common interest, bilateral relations and ways of bolstering them in various

areas, and military cooperation between the United Arab Emirates and Britain.

Departs 20 Jan

JN2101084192 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Jan (WAKH)—Thomas King, British secretary of state for defense, left Abu Dhabi tonight following a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE].

During his visit, the British secretary discussed with high- ranking officials in the UAE issues of mutual interest, the current situation in the Gulf region, and bilateral relations.

Saudi Arabia

Oil Minister Announces Immediate Production Cut

LD2101145992 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] His excellency the petroleum and mineral resources minister, Mr. Hisham Muhyi-al-Din Nazir, made a statement to SPA today, in which he said: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, desirous of balance on demand and supply on the oil market, has decided to cut its production by 100,000 barrels per day with immediate effect. He went on to say: I do not find a strong justification for low prices on the market. What is being published about the size of OPEC production is incorrect. In conclusion he said: Through this measure we hope that matters will take their natural course.

Saddam Speaks to Children on War Anniversary

JN1801185092 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1604 GMT 18 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan (INA)—To mark the first anniversary of the military chapter of the Mother of Battles, leader President Saddam Husayn has received a group of his beloved children of great Iraq, whom the enemies wanted to deprive of a prosperous life and a secure, luxurious future to which the revolution has devoted its efforts and jihad to fulfill for the sake of all generations.

They are the children of Iraq, who were meanly and basely deprived of medicine, milk, and minimal food by George Bush and his accursed government, with the participation of world Zionism and the Western governments, especially the governments of Britain and France.

They are the children of Iraq who are being subjected to an aggression supported by some agent Arab rulers—rulers who are eager to continue depriving Iraqi children of food, medicine, and clothes, while lifting the embargo on the usurper Zionists.

They are the children who testified for history in front of the father and leader, before the ears of the people, the Arabs, and the world. The young scorned the despicable ones who call themselves big leaders.

They are the children of Iraq, who sang to the leader songs of love and adherence to the father, the protector, the educator, and the builder of their grand house, great Saddam Husayn.

They are the children of Iraq, reciting to the leader rhymes of faithfulness to the Iraqi family, the Iraqi homeland, the Arab nation, and the honor of man.

Leader President Saddam Husayn spoke to his beloved children with all affinity and paternal love, saluting their intrinsic intelligence and clinging to their homeland and families, and blessing their courage. Following is the text of the leader president's address:

The leader president said the following within his educational advice:

When we were young, we lived in the countryside. Our families were careful not to let us be frightened of the dark. They would send us from one place to another at night so that we would get used to dark.

The leader president added: If we want our children not to fear the dark, mothers today should follow mothers in the old days. Even when the mother is frightened of something, she should not show it to her children, so that they, especially males, can be raised on courage.

This is also necessary so that our young girls, when they grow up, become brave, not like those girls who feel alarmed whenever they hear a door shut, or who run to hide under the bed to avoid danger. Such instances plant fear in the souls of children, and later effect their spirits as men.

The leader president asked the children to convey his greetings to their mothers and to talk to them about these matters, as their colleague Ru'a did.

The leader president advised them: Tell your mothers that we heard from our mothers and grandmothers that they taught small girls what was shame and what was not shame in order to enable them to get used to rejecting anything that would harm her reputation or that of her family.

The leader president added: When a girl avoids shame, her personality becomes more impressive in society, and she will have a better chance to marry the best man because the residents of her neighborhood, the neighbors, and the society will know that she is good and kind; safeguards her reputation; works at home, in the field, or any other place; learns from her mother how to cook and keep the house neat; and takes care of her little brothers and helps them dress, wash themselves, and comb their hair. As a result, people will know that she is a girl of good conduct and is helpful, and a good man will marry her.

The leader president said: Tell your mothers to teach you starting now what is shameful and how to reject American education that says it is wrong to tell a child what is shameful and what is not. This makes children undisciplined, which characterizes American life.

This education is connected with the nature of American society, which is made up of groups of people who immigrated to the new world to get rich quick or to escape from the law. When they arrived in the United States, they began a war against the original residents, the Indians.

The United States was formed by people, who were either searching for wealth or escaping from the law. In addition to that, they are a nation with different values, traditions, and ethics.

The leader president said: What is important is that you should remind your mothers how to explain to children what is shameful, how to help other children, how to respect older people, and how people should deal with neighbors.

His excellency the leader president said: A girl commands the respect of others through her conduct. When elders respect her, her reputation is elevated. If she fails to make men respect her, her standing is reduced, even in marriage. She might not find a suitable man who could protect her, and of whom she could be proud before society.

In his advice to the Iraqi families, his excellency leader President Saddam Husayn added: Fathers must teach their children to respect their neighbors and view such a respect as a sacred thing. This is because God asks us to be nice to our neighbors. Furthermore, our noble Prophet asks us to be nice to neighbors. According to the injunctions of the true Islamic religion, neighbors have inviolable rights.

His excellency the leader president said: Convey my greetings to your fathers. Let them teach you how you can respect a neighbor's daughter and view her as a

sister, one whom you would protect and care for, and whose reputation you would be careful to safeguard.

In his educational advice, his excellency the leader president added: Fathers must teach children, and children must teach one another how to protect public property. Electricity, water, medicines, radio, and television are all paid for with public funds. The same goes for dams which provide peasants with water, the lifeline of agriculture. Agriculture provides us with food. Similarly, the same also goes for the plants that we build and the army that defends the homeland. Hence, he who damages public property harms the person, conscience, and heart of each of us.

His excellency the leader went on to say: He who breaks a light bulb at school or on the street damages public property. This is because we purchase such bulbs using Iraqi funds. If a neighbor sees a thief, or a band of thieves attempting to rob a house, he must contact the police immediately, because he who threatens a citizen or jeopardizes the security of a family indeed jeopardizes the security of all of us.

In the educational lesson he delivered to Iraqi children, his excellency the leader president said: Although the enemies brought more weapons and men than we had, we achieved victory over them. Why? Because faith remained inside us, and they could not remove that faith from our hearts.

His excellency leader President Saddam Husayn asked the children: Would you accept seeing faith removed from within us if the prize to be obtained were to be a rapid lifting of the blockade?

The children replied, saying: No, faith should not be removed from within us.

His excellency the president asked: Why, my children? The answer, my sons, is that a man without faith is a man without values.

His excellency added: God chose prophets from among the people. Our Prophet Muhammad hailed from the Bani-Hashim family of the Quraysh tribe. He was chosen by God, who entrusted Gabriel with passing on the message.

So man is great, my sons, because prophets arose from among human beings. When man loses his faith, however, he becomes weightless, which spells his end. Without faith, honor, or principles man has no worth; he becomes like an unthinking animal, living just to stuff his stomach.

His excellency the leader president said: Since long ago, the Iraqis have been a people with a creed, so no one can now come and make them be otherwise.

His excellency the leader president said: We know that when they lift the blockade, they will not give us bread. We want them to lift it so that we can buy bread with our own money.

God has meant this blockade to be a test for us. They came with more weapons than we had. The resistance of the brave men was clear, and they and their people held their ground on the battlefield. God cares for our welfare and our station in life.

I believe that Almighty God blinded them and made them continue the blockade in order to expose their reality and their lies, even in the resolutions they made in the Security Council. They used to say that when Iraq withdrew from Kuwait, the blockade would end. I want to explain to you how they lied. Iraq withdrew from Kuwait but the blockade continued.

If the blockade continues, it is faith that will lift it. With every passing month of the bockade, they grow weaker. Now, they are being blocked by people everywhere, even in the United States itself. The crimes they used to whitewash are now coming to the surface.

The most important thing now is to maintain our rights through patience.

The leader president told the children of the homeland: If you have a black blouse, and feel like having a red one, you should not buy it, because you do not need it. You should not buy anything you do not need. If a girl has one dress only, it should be enough. You can follow the example of the Army: They wear only one color—khaki. I want you to continue like this until the blockade is lifted. It will be lifted, God willing; God will force them to lift the blockade when He see that you are believers.

When the Almighty tells humans: "I shall try you on this or that," He wants to test them. God wants to test you, to see whether you are believers or not. When He makes sure that you are believers, He will lift the blockade against you. God Almighty will force the oppressors to lift the blockade by weakening their spirits.

The leader president said in his address to the young: My sons, those who have enough food should not ask for more. And those who have rice and okra should not ask for kubbah [bulgur stuffed with meat], as this would be extravagant.

I want you to organize life at home by telling your mothers when they cook more than you need that this is too much, we are under blockade. If your family wants to buy you a third or a fourth dress, you should tell them that this is wastefulness and that we should not continue to change clothes as if we were not under a blockade. In order to win ourselves, honor, and God's approval, we should tighten our belts; is it not right, sons?

The leader president added: God likes neither misers nor extravagant people. Those who can afford to buy things for their children but fail to do so are misers. Those who have many vests and turn down a poor man asking for one are misers. God does not like misers, nor does He like squanderers.

The leader president said: When we love God and help each other, God loves us. And those loved by God cannot be defeated by any force on earth.

The meeting was attended by Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi, chief of the Presidential Office.

U.S. Firm's Telecommunications Aid Denied

JN1901160692 Baghdad INA in English 1550 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, Jan. 19, INA—Iraqi Minister of Transport and Communications 'Abd-al-Sattar al-Ma'ini refuted claims by some American circles on an alleged contribution by the American company MCI in restoring communications services destroyed during the aggression on Iraq.

Speaking during a meeting with a visiting American-Iraqi Friendship Society delegation here today, the minister stressed that such claims were after minimizing the role and capabilities of Iraqi technicians and engineers in the process of reconstruction.

He said that despite the ongoing economic blockade, Iraqi technical cadres managed to repair most telecommunications and telephone network centres damaged during the aggression.

Likud Decides Not To Call Early Elections

TA1901130292 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] The Likud will try to muster a majority in the Knesset in the vote of confidence next Monday [27 January] and, at this point, will not propose bringing the elections forward to an agreed- upon date. Likud ministers made that decision a short time ago at the end of their meeting in Jerusalem. The Likud hopes that if the no-confidence motion is submitted over a social issue, rather than a political one, there will be 60 Knesset members who will support the government and, consequently, the government will not fall.

Labor Party No-Confidence Motion Set for 27 Jan

TA2101184492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1800 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpt] The Labor Party in the Knesset has decided to, in fact, present a motion of no confidence for a vote next Monday [27 January]. The decision was taken at today's meeting of the Labor caucus, but as David Ze'ev reports, the talk of the meeting was a confrontation between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin.

[Begin recording] The stormy meeting of the Labor caucus ended with a decision to present the motion of no confidence, setting the stage for two such motions on Monday, by Labor and the HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] Communist faction which presented its motion yesterday.

The Labor decision was overshadowed by an internal election campaign barrage of charges and countercharges by two of the candidates for the party chairmanship, Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin. It started with whether Shim'on Peres was really hoping and trying to form an interim government in place of the Likud with the vote of no confidence, instead of the general consensus, or so it seemed, to have early elections before November, and only that way to determine who will run the country next. According to the charges, Peres was holding contacts with religious parties to establish a majority in the Knesset. The alleged Peres move would be a way of getting to the premiership before Yitzhaq Rabin has a chance to contend for the Labor leadership. Peres denied he had any such plan and called it a deliberate campaign to malign him. With old personal rivalries running deep, Rabin brought into the foray Yosi Beilin, a former deputy of Peres' at the Foreign and Finance Ministries. That in turn so angered Beilin that he stormed out of the room and slammed the door behind him, but before he did so he took a parting shot at Rabin, saying: Pity on the party that would have as its head an inciter and agitator like you. Only a sample of today's Labor caucus meeting, and just to remind you, before Labor can challenge the Likud it will have to pick itself a leader to make that challenge. [end recording]

Three left-wing parties—Shinuy, MAPAM [United Workers Party], and CRM [Citizens Rights Movement]—have decided to withdraw their parliamentary support of the government on the peace issue. After a meeting in Tel Aviv tonight they announced that they themselves would submit a motion of no confidence, this time over the government's settlement policies. [passage omitted]

CRM To Abstain

TA1901190492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1800 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Excerpt] The Citizens Rights Movement [CRM], with five Knesset seats, will abstain from a vote of no confidence in the government. The decision was taken a short while ago at CRM headquarters in Tel Aviv.

The movement also today accused the Housing Ministry of undermining peace efforts by bringing more mobile homes to settlements in the territories. Reporter Miryam Herschlag spoke to CRM Knesset Member [MK] Dedi Zucker. First, on reports that 45 new mobile homes have been brought to the settlement of Bet El for a new residential neighborhood:

[Begin recording] [Zucker] It wasn't done only in a place that you have announced about. In Bet Hagay, for example, on Thursday they brought 30 mobile homes as well, and it's probably part of much larger extent policy which at the basis lies some kind of political consideration. [sentence as heard] It's definitely another effort made by Mr. Sharon, not without the backing of the prime minister, either to make some signal to the Americans and to the Palestinians, or to just torpedo the peace efforts that in any case are in a very bad condition now.

[Herschlag] Will the Citizens Rights Movement support a no- confidence motion?

[Zucker] We just a few minutes ago ended another meeting considering this dilemma. We will consult with the other parties—Shinuy and MAPAM [United Workers Movement]—tomorrow and on Tuesday. Right now, there is no change in our decision to abstain in this motion and to claim for [as heard] only one thing: We are ready to give another chance—but only one chance more—to this government. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Olmert on Possibility of Early Elections

TA1901160192 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Telephone interview with Health Minister Ehud Olmert by Uri Paz and Goni Mardor; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Paz] Do you believe you will succeed in mustering the support of 60 Knesset members next Monday and that the government will not fall?

[Olmert] I would not rule out such a possibility. To wit, Mr. Ne'eman said that not every vote of confidence should automatically encompass all the Knesset members who are

not part of the government. Therefore, we do not know exactly what will happen. It is too early to tell.

[Mardor] Would you like to call an early election?

[Olmert] If it turns out that the government cannot function, we will obviously have to bring the elections forward. This will not be an automatic decision; it has to be investigated.

We hesitate for a very simple reason. This government lost its majority because of its commitment to the peace process. I think this is the first time in Israel's history that a government has lost its parliamentary majority because it is willing and determined to pursue a peace process. Therefore, we should not rush to call an early election if this process is harmed as a result. On the other hand, it is hard to uphold a government that cannot function. We will examine the choice between these two options within the next few days, and we will see what to do.

[Paz] If elections are ultimately held on 9 June, will the political process grind to a halt?

[Olmert] It might be harmed, no doubt about it. A government conducting an election campaign has different obligations from a government conducting political negotiations when it is to some degree free of such pressures.

[Paz] In other words, one should not rule out the possibility that the talks in Moscow may be the last station until after the elections.

[Olmert] I hope not. I very much hope we will pursue this process. We have a commitment to the peace process, and we will abide by it.

[Mardor] What about your own party? Do you feel it is ready for an early election, if one is held?

[Olmert] If an early election is called, we will be ready and we will win.

[Paz] A Labor Knesset member or the entire party could very well provide you a safety net next week.

[Olmert] We would rather operate with the safety net provided by our natural supporters and no one else.

Levi Briefs Media Before Departing for PRC

TA2101163192 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1522 GMT 21 Jan 92

[News conference by Foreign Minister David Levi at Ben-Gurion Airport prior to his departure for the PRC—live]

[Text] [Levi, broadcast in progress] ... I will meet with government leaders there—the prime minister, the foreign minister, the deputy prime minister, senior officials. We will sign the documents on the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Israel, and we will unveil the plaque on the Israeli Embassy in Beijing. From there, we will go on to Moscow for the multilateral gathering, for which Israeli proposals and ideas have been prepared and already presented to the U.S. Administration. It will be an opportunity to make them public and to present them officially to all the participants. All of them are based on cooperation between Israel and the Arab countries to develop the region, to create mutual trust, on the road to peace. I believe it is a historic opportunity and we must do everything possible to exploit it for the good of our people, the good of our country, and for the good of all the states and peoples of the region. We are going with high expectations but also with the belief and trust that what we strived for will bear fruit. We hope that the gathering in Moscow will give us optimism about the start of a new era, in which we will witness cooperation between Israel and its neighbors with international aid. That is another step along the road we took to advance the peace process when I took over the Foreign Ministry.

We have experienced many obstacles and difficulties and we have done everything possible to overcome them. It does not depend only on Israel. Our neighbors also have to show a desire and steadfastness for this process because it is good for all the sides. I hope that will be the case. Thank you.

[Gil Yerushalmi, IDF Radio] Mr. Minister, I would like to start with a question about what is happening in Israel now. In view of the no-confidence motion in the Knesset and the call by the various parties, including those in the coalition, to bring the elections forward, do you not believe it would be preferable to coordinate with the other Knesset parties a date for early elections?

[Levi] First, the government has shown something of political—national and international—significance: its steadfastness about the peace process, which resulted from its own political initiative. Its loyalty to that process is preferable to even a coalition majority. In other words, the government pays a price for advancing the process and is not prepared for the process to be the price it pays for a coalition majority. That is the answer to many things which we have heard over the past 24 hours, as there is apparently insufficient awareness of political processes in a democratic country. We must pay attention to that before Israel is blamed. The Government of Israel has shown loyalty to a process which it initiated. Peace is dear to us. We will continue to work to advance it. In reference to the elections, that is something that is being looked into. The situation is not such that when there are difficulties the government immediately has to—while running amok—give up and say we are not continuing. It is the government's duty to defend itself, to study the real situation in the Knesset, to do everything possible to make sure that the opposition's no-confidence motion fails, and to look into parliamentary developments coolheadedly. That is what it is doing.

[Yerushalmi] Do you believe the government will manage to survive the no-confidence motion; and how long will it survive after that?

[Levi] First, we have to see whether it survives the no-confidence motion. We will wait and see how long it can survive.

[Arye Gus, Qol Yisra'el] Will diplomatic relations also be established with India?

[Levi] The issue has been dealt with quietly and discreetly by my ministry for months. Of course, whoever forms diplomatic relations with Israel does so for a reason, after studying the issue, and for self-interest. All those are being studied by both sides. I believe that the day is not far off when we will be able to announce the establishment of relations with that country too.

On Loan Guarantee Issue

TA2101201592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1705 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Report on news conference with Foreign Minister David Levi at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his departure for the PRC on 21 January—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Esti Shrek, Qol Yisra'el] Contrary to the finance minister, who is reported to prefer giving up the U.S. guarantees than our hold onto Eretz Yisra'el, Levi is not prepared for economic concessions.

[Levi] I am not prepared to give up even a single cent. We should not volunteer and daily repeat our readiness to give in. We will be able to withstand the tests of peace, Zionism, and others, including maintaining Eretz Yisra'el, only with a strong and healthy society. Therefore, we should not give up anything. We should make every effort to convince, and reach an agreement.

[Shrek] What if the condition presented to us for receiving the guarantees is that settlements should stop?

[Levi] There are conditions on every issue. We never said that we give up because the other side has an approach different from ours.

[Shrek] With the possibility of early elections in the background, when and if will you announce that you are contesting the premiership?

[Levi] No comment. [passage omitted]

Commander To Proceed With Deportation of Gazans

TA2101204492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] After receiving the recommendations of the advisory military committees, Matan Vilna'i, commander of the Southern Command, has decided to proceed with the process of deporting the seven Palestinian activists from the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the seven have a single option now: to appeal to the High Court of Justice against the deportation orders.

Prospective Deportees Appeal

TA2201092592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] The Palestinian activists from the Gaza Strip appealed to the High Court of Justice this morning, asking the court to issue an interim order to withhold their deportation until after the legal proceedings on their appeal have been completed.

Our legal affairs correspondent Mira Amsalem reports that in their petition the prospective deportees ask for how long and to where they will be deported, and how the security services intend to maintain them and their families. Our correspondent points out that the prospective deportees were told that the deportation order would be implemented only after 2200 [2000 GMT] to give them time to petition the High Court of Justice.

KUNA: Iraq 'Smuggled' Nuclear Material to Jordan

LD2201093392 Kuwait KUNA in English 0720 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 22 Jan (KUNA)—The Kuwaiti newspaper 'AL- WATAN' cited an Arab diplomatic source in Cairo as saying that Iraq has smuggled more than half of its nuclear program to Jordan. The source said that President of the Iraqi regime Saddam Husayn has signed with King Husayn an agreement according to which Jordan gets a number of Scud missile launchers and 50 long and medium range missiles.

The source added that Iraq has misled the UN international inspection teams and was able to smuggle these nuclear materials from Baghdad to Jordan. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Meets Palestinian Talks Delegates

JN2101133792 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir received in his office at the Prime Ministry at noon today several members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations.

The results of the latest round of peace negotiations in Washington and the next stage of peace talks were discussed, and viewpoints were exchanged on how to enhance Jordanian-Palestinian coordination, along its two tracks, during the peace negotiations to implement international legitimacy and attain the legitimate rights of the Arab Palestinian people.

The meeting was attended by Dhuqan al-Hindawi, deputy prime minister and minister of education; 'Ali al-Suhaymat, deputy prime minister and minister of transport; Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu- Jabir; and Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

Paper Questions End Result of Moscow Talks

JN2201100592 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Jan 92 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "We Know What the Israelis Want; What Does Washington Want From Us?"]

[Text] The Israelis do not want us to look back and see that the two of us have been struggling for the past four decades, and this includes four wars. The Israelis want us to ignore the fact that they are occupying Arab territory and expelling Arab people. They want us to believe that the Arab-Israeli struggle amounts to nothing more than differences that can be resolved by holding multilateral talks without implementing relevant UN Security Council resolutions, without Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, and without linking the entire problem to the norms of international legitimacy.

The Israelis want to turn the peace process into a process of complete surrender in the presence of witnesses from everywhere—a process of surrender which will begin in Washington and end in Moscow, and by which we authorize the Israelis to control the region politically, culturally, psychologically, economically, and militarily in a way that suits them and fully realizes their objectives.

The Israelis do not want to understand the important fact that there is only one criterion to judge the true intentions behind holding multilateral talks; namely, the success of the bilateral talks; that is, the full implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, which means full Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and, above all, Arab Jerusalem. This also means full Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian heights, southern Lebanon, and the occupied Jordanian territory. When such a withdrawal takes place, or at least when the Israelis agree to it, there will be an opportunity to continue building the comprehensive peace process in all its other aspects. It is hard to expect a sound start or a minimum level of success in the Moscow talks before the occupied Arab territories are returned to their Arab owners.

The Israelis have even refused a proposal to discuss the issue of withdrawal on the premise that Israelis do not withdraw from their own territory. Therefore, not a single Arab had expected the Israelis, either in Madrid or in Washington, to announce their readiness to honor international legitimacy, start preparing for withdrawal from the Arab territories, and then launch multilateral talks which will ensure the region's security, stability, cooperation, and peace, all of which have been missing since the early start of the Zionist aggression.

We do not want to ask the Israelis what they want from us as Arabs. We know precisely what they want. However, we would like to know what the Americans want from us. Where was their enthusiasm toward international legitimacy, their strong feelings about protecting it, and their ability to threaten and bang on the tables with their fists?

We went to Madrid and Washington with true intentions and deep desire to realize a just and comprehensive peace. What do the Americans want from us now as they listen, just as we do, to what the Israelis are saying? Does Washington think it is appropriate and logical to go to Moscow to discuss the future picture without considering the injustice inflicted on us for the past four decades? Furthermore, what future can we and this region have if what is required from us is to sign in Arabic script agreements written in Hebrew which cancel our rights and confirm Israeli contempt for international legitimacy and its impregnable protector, the United States, which insists on defending some, but not all, of the UN principles and resolutions?

Minister Departs for Jerusalem Committee Meetings

JN2101165892 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Information Minister Mahmud al-Sharif left Amman today for Morocco to participate in the meetings of the Jerusalem Committee which will begin there next Thursday under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco.

The meetings will be attended by representatives of 14 Arab and Islamic countries who will discuss conditions in the holy city, ways of maintaining its sanctity and confronting the Judaization activities which the Israeli occupation authorities are carrying out.

Al-Sharif will also represent Jordan at the meetings of the foreign ministers of the member states of the Jerusalem Committee. The meetings will be held in Morocco next Friday to listen to Arab and Islamic viewpoints on activating the UN role in tackling the issues of the holy city.

Rallies Mark First Anniversary of Gulf War

Solidarity Message Cabled to Saddam

JN2101124492 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Jan 92 pp 1, 14

[By Riyad Mansur]

[Text] Participants at a speech rally organized by the General Secretariat of the Popular Forces Conference and the Jordanian Popular Committee To Support Iraq to mark the first anniversary of the unjust 30-state aggression against Iraq have condemned the aggression and the sinister, black conspiracy which continues to be carried out against the mujahid people of Iraq.

In two separate cables to the UN secretary general and the Arab League secretary general at the end of the rally, which was held at the Cultural Palace last night, participants stressed that the death and destruction caused by the unjust aggression against Iraq and the continuation of the unfair siege, which has led to the spread of hunger and disease in the country, will stand witness to the savagery and barbarity overtaking the aggressors, in addition to their hideous grudge against the Arab nation's aspirations and its right to life and progress.

In their cables, the participants recalled the false excuses behind which the U.S.-led coalition states concealed their objectives in the name of international legitimacy, which has subsequently been exposed to all nations as the legitimacy of aggression in dealing with our Arab issues. They demanded the UN secretary general revise the course of the international organization by adopting a neutral position that will give the oppressed people their legitimate rights. They called for lifting the unjust siege being imposed on Iraq and its people, especially the children who are chased daily by the specter of death.

The participants decided to send a cable of solidarity and support to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Parliamentary, partisan, Islamic, and professional figures participated in the speech rally. Bishop Iliya Khuri, member of the PLO Executive Committee, delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian people.

The Iraqi ambassador in Amman and speaker of the Palestine National Council, His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, attended the rally along with a large crowd of citizens.

'Arabiyat at al-Salt Rally

JN2001112392 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Jan 92 p 10

[Excerpt] Al-Salt—On the first anniversary of the brutal U.S.-led 30-state aggression against sisterly Iraq, and upon the invitation of al-Salt Cultural Forum, a speech rally was held on the evening of 18 January at the al-Salt Cultural Center. Addressing the rally were House of Representatives Speaker Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, Senator Hamad al-Farhan, retired Staff Major General Yusuf Ka'wash, colleague Tariq Masarwah, al-Salt Mayor 'Abd-al- Razzaq al-Nusur, Sulayman Muhammad al-Hiyari, and poet Muhammad al- Nusayrat. Their speeches dealt with the reasons for the U.S. aggression on Iraq, and the negative effects of the unjust Gulf war on the Arab and Islamic nation.

House of Representatives Speaker Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat said: What the Arab and Islamic nations are facing from the West, and the so-called Gulf war, constitute a threat to uproot the nation and a war against its existence. The issue is not one of borders.

He added: What is required is an objective assessment of what took place and rational planning for what will follow, especially since the United States is the criminal of this era in its use of propaganda campaigns and all weapons of destruction that are banned by all standards and at all times. Dr. 'Arabiyat also said: The time has come for this nation to proceed along the correct road. The Gulf war was against the nation, not only against Iraq. It is regrettable that Iraq faced this oppressive campaign alone on behalf of the nation.

He added: We need reconstruction and unity, and to study the causes of and learn from these bitter and recurring lessons that befall the nation. He also expressed pride in the official and popular position of Jordan in terms of its courageousness and sincere view of the course of the events. [passage omitted]

Islamists Gather, Condemn Sanctions

JN1801084992 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Jan 92 p 3

[Text] Amman—The Muslim Brotherhood group on Friday protested the allied attack launched a year ago to

force Iraq to relinquish Kuwait and urged Arab countries to intercede with international circles to help lift U.N. sanctions against Baghdad.

In a rally at an Amman mosque following noon prayers, the powerful Muslim Brotherhood movement also accused Western nations of "continued aggression against Muslims in Algiers."

The rally coincided with the first anniversary of the Gulf war, which the U.S.-led multinational coalition launched the night of Jan. 16-17, 1991 to end Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

'Abd-al-Rahman Khalifah, head of the Jordanian chapter of the Muslim Brotherhood, and member 'Abd-al-Majid al-Thunaybat condemned the economic sanctions on Iraq, saying that such sanctions are in violation of international charters and laws, including international human rights charters and declarations.

Both Mr. Khalifah and Mr. al-Thunaybat called on the Arab and Muslim nations to support Iraq in helping it overcome its ordeal. They also called for sending food and medical supplies to the Iraqi people, who are suffering from shortages of food and medicine.

"We gather here today to denounce the American-Atlantic aggression against a brotherly Muslim nation and to remember the courageous stand of Iraq in the face of the imperialists," said Mr. Khalifah.

"The Muslim nation and its people, whether in Iraq, Algiers or other countries, are sieged by America and its allies while Arab rulers are silently watching," he said.

Mr. Khalifah's 20-minute speech was often interrupted by shouts of Allahu Akbar, by an estimated 600 protesters.

Mr. Khalifah and Mr. al-Thunaybat pointed out that thousands of Iraqi children, women and old people face death as a result of the shortage of food and medicine. With this situation in mind, the wealthy Arabs and Muslims should provide the necessary assistance to the Iraqi people, who are now suffering as a result of the economic sanctions still imposed on that Arab and Muslim country, Mr. Khalifah and Mr. al-Thunaybat said.

Mr. al-Thunaybat accused the West of instigating the crisis in Algiers in order to prevent fundamentalists from taking power.

"The West has gone mad when it saw an Islamic regime emerging in Algiers and conspired to creat this crisis," Mr. al-Thunaybat said.

"I assure you that we now have greater hope and faith that Islam will emerge victorious and will spread all over the world," he said.

Meanwhile, a group of 100 unionists gathered at the main offices of the United Nations in Amman urging the world body to lift the sanctions against Iraq.

The protesters, shouting pro-Iraqi slogans, delivered a letter to the U.N. representative in Jordan addressed to Secretary General Butrus Ghali asking that the sanctions be lifted.

Editorial Lambastes Fitzwater Remarks on Iraq

JN1801112092 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
18 Jan 92 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "The Real Pariahs"]

[Text] What the White House does not know is that the killer, not the victim, is the pariah, and that murder, not self-defense, is the heinous action. What the United States did against Iraq was an action perpetrated against the entire Iraqi people and not against their president, Saddam Husayn. It was an action taken against the yearning of Iraqis for progress and knowledge, not against the building up of Iraqi defensive capabilities.

When the White House spokesman talks about the achievements of the U.S. war machine and its barbaric aggression against Iraq, he misses our greatest achievement—the unequivocal conclusion that the United States is a nation of murderers and that everything that is said by its politicians and propaganda machine is nothing but mountains of lies.

Mr. Fitzwater says that it is the decision of the American people and Government to continue pressure on Iraq until its leader is toppled, and that Iraq will remain a pariah, as the U.S. official put it. If this official has told the truth, and if he is sure that he has reflected the true feelings and intentions of the American people, then the only thing that we would like to declare is our contempt for a state whose politicians say that it will continue to slaughter children and sick people and that this decision is supported by the people. Such a state cannot be but an island on which murderers, pirates, and bloodsuckers live, not a state that claims to be leading the world and the new world order.

The White House spokesman certainly realizes that less than a year after the beginning of the barbaric war against Iraq, the Arab nation has sorted things out. Thus, the brave, loyal leaders who are immune to all pressures and temptations were put on one side, while the pariahs, the defeated, and the dishonest were put on the other side. Since this sorting process has been a comprehensive one, it must certainly have not excluded the United States and the rest of its Western allies whose war, propagandistic, and economic policies reflect the disintegration of their societies. These policies also have demonstrated how those people have returned to their old immoral colonialism, which our fathers and forefathers fought and defeated in our Arab homeland.

Iraq is still the heart of its nation. Only those who fought it and attempted to kill it are the pariahs. Only the Iraqis, not their murderers, will determine which leadership will remain for them and among them and which leadership they will reject. If the White House spokesman wagers on

the so-called Iraqi opposition, then the Iraqi people can only regard this opposition with the contempt it deserves, given that it has joined the enemy ranks, has been recruited by the pirates and murderers, and is being used in a disgraceful manner.

Iraq will remain where it stands, and the Iraqis will remain for their nation. Meanwhile, the barbaric coalition will continue its disintegration. Glory is made by those who defend man and his right to knowledge, security, and progress and not by what Hulagu does.

The United States and its Western allies are the subject of our contempt. They will remain the pariahs. They have come to us and have discovered a real pleasure in the death of our children and sick people. They have found it amusing to destroy our mosques, churches, universities, bridges, roads, and even our poetry books and paintings.

IAEA Finances Nuclear Energy Projects

JN2001155992 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Jan 92 p 28

[By 'Isam Qadamani]

[Text] The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has obtained the approval of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to finance eight new projects for developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes during the current year at the aggregate cost of more than $1 million.

The ministry is developing nine national projects for the use of nuclear energy at a cost of $288,322. The projects are financed by the IAEA and local participation in the same amount. Ministry sources say that these projects are in the field of electricity, industry, agriculture, medicine, pharmaceuticals, water, and metal exploration, in addition to prevention from radiation, and safeguarding the environment from radiation . The ministry issued 274 licenses to institutions and individuals for the export and import of radioactive elements.

Karami, PLO Official Discuss Multilateral Talks

NC2101204992 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Prime Minister 'Umar Karami and Shafiq al-Hut, former director of the PLO's Beirut office, met today and discussed the multilateral peace talks.

Al-Hut said the prime minister informed him of the Lebanese Government's viewpoint, which he will convey to the PLO leadership since both Lebanon and Palestine are eager to maintain consultations among the four countries concerned. He hoped a decision of solidarity will be made so Arab ranks will not be divided.

Karami Voices Reservations About Cabinet Bylaw

NC2201095392 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] Minister Albert Mansur said that the cabinet bylaw issue has been placed on the agenda of today's cabinet meeting, which he hoped Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt would attend.

Visitors received by Prime Minister Karami have cited him as saying that formulating a bylaw for the cabinet would be an irregular move in conflict with constitutional norms. Karami said: It is difficult for the cabinet to have a bylaw because the government is an executive power that departs when the prime minister resigns. The government cannot abide by the same bylaws that apply to parliament. The right way to deal with outstanding issues is for the president, prime minister, and speaker of the chamber of deputies to cooperate. Karami said: The ministerial committee has thrown the cabinet bylaw issue into the cabinet's lap. It will be discussed at its 22 January meeting. Karami said that the cabinet might find a way to regulate its work without adopting a bylaw.

Minister of State 'Abdallah al-Amin said that the project to regulate cabinet work is nearly complete. Al-Amin said that the bylaw is a technical issue concerning the way the cabinet works. He told our radio that the prime minister has reservations about some of the points contained in the bylaw proposals. He said that the prime minister is concerned about what he sees as a conflict between these proposals and the prime minister's powers as defined by the Constitution. Al-Amin said that it has been agreed to ignore any clause of the draft bylaw which conflicts with the Constitution.

Mechanized Force Strafes Hasbayya Region

NC2101134692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] In Hasbayya, Western al-Biqa', our correspondent has reported that at 1100 a mechanized force from the occupation army advanced 1 km north of its position in the Kawkaba hills along the Jabal Qilya combat line and raked the area with tank fire and large- caliber machine guns. Two Israeli helicopters hovered in the region and dropped scores of thermal balloons. The helicopters flew in the area for 30 minutes. At 1230, they returned to overfly the same region.

Resistance Claims Attack on Israeli Unit

NC2101174692 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] According to reports received from western al-Biqa', an Israeli forces unit near al-Ahmadiyah position came under fire from rockets today. Islamic resistance sources claimed responsibility for the attack and said there were a number of casualties, while members of the armed group returned safely to base. Reports said Israeli helicopters searched the area.

Hizballah Radio Details Operation

NC2201083792 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] On the birth anniversary of Imam 'Ali, the father of revolutionaries and the hero of the storming of Khaybar fort, peace be upon him, the Islamic resistance men waged a lightning attack on a concentration of Zionist troops near al-Ahmadiyah barracks in western al-Biqa', killing two Zionist soldiers and wounding others. A fierce battle between the mujahidin and the Zionists followed the attack and the latter called in helicopters for support. Machine guns and rockets were used in the fighting, during which a number of enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

While the fighting continued a group from the Islamic resistance arrived and fired several anti-aircraft rockets at the Zionist helicopters combing the area, forcing them to flee.

The operation was in response to repeated Zionist attacks against the liberated villages.

According to security sources, Zionist artillery shelled the hills overlooking the eastern sector of the occupied border strip for an hour last night. Field artillery and mortars were used to shell Jabal al-Dahr hills while illumination flares lit the sky in the south.

Israeli Radio—No Casualties

TA2101190392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1800 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] An Israel Army outpost in southern Lebanon came under attack today from automatic gunfire. No one was hurt. The fire was returned. The incident took place near the Druze village of Hasbayya, in the eastern sector.

Rshaf Village Fenced Off, Readied for 'Annexation'

NC2101160592 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpts] According to reports received from the south this morning, Lahd militia agents have seized half of

Rshaf, ready for its final annexation to the occupied border strip. [passage omitted]

Since morning, Lahd militia agents have been setting up barbed wire between the half of Rshaf which they control and the other half controlled by the Nepalese UN contingent. According to informed sources in southern Lebanon, this step has been made in preparation for the annexation of Rshaf to the so-called security strip. [passage omitted]

A UN Interim Force in Lebanon source has stated that a delegation of senior UN officers was dispatched to investigate the erection of barbed wire to divide the village.

SLA—'No Intention' To Annex Rshaf

TA2101153992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the UN force in southern Lebanon claims that the Lebanese Army fenced off areas in the vicinity of the village of Rshaf, including the road leading from the village northward. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht adds that the SLA [South Lebanese Army] command announced there is no intention to annex the village to the security zone as claimed by Nabih Birri, the Shiite minister in the Lebanese Government, but the villagers should be searched at roadblocks erected there by the SLA soldiers.

'Mass Exodus' From South; UN Contingent on Alert

NC2101180092 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Our correspondent in the south has reported that there is a mass exodus from the villages of Haddathah, 'Ayta al-Jabal, Tibnin, Bra'shit, and Haris. He added that so far more than 10,000 citizens have left these villages.

Extreme tension is prevailing in all the central sector's villages. Radio Free Lebanon has learned that the Irish contingent has been put on alert as a safeguard against any occurrence.

UN Envoy Asked To Lodge Complaint Against Israel

NC2101131692 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] On Prime Minister 'Umar Karami's instructions, the Foreign Ministry cabled Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, Lebanon's permanent representative at the United Nations, requesting that he submit a strongly-worded complaint against Israel for its continuing aggression against Lebanese territory, particularly its recent siege of southern villages, and reserve Lebanon's right to call for a UN Security Council meeting, according to developments.

UAE Announces Opening of Beirut Embassy

NC2101154292 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Muhammad 'Abdallah 'Amir al-Filasi, charge d'affaires of the United Arab Emirates [UAE] Embassy in Lebanon, announced the opening of the embassy in Beirut this morning. He was speaking following his meeting with Prime Minister 'Umar Karami.

Afghanistan

Soviet Withdrawal Date 'National Salvation Day'

LD1901184792 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] Esteemed Najibollah, president of Afghanistan, has issued a decree declaring 15 February to be National Salvation Day. The text is as follows:

Under the national reconciliation policy, the protection of independence and national sovereignty and the defense of territorial integrity are the pressing tasks of the Republic of Afghanistan. In accordance with national, Islamic, and Afghan tradition, taking into account the country's high national interest, and relying on the historical will of Afghanistan [word indistinct] like their fathers and forefathers in the defense of free, independent, and indivisible Afghanistan, the following is approved: 15 February, which coincides with the withdrawal of the last Soviet soldier from the Republic of Afghanistan, is declared to be National Salvation Day. This historic day will be a public holiday and will be marked in a worthy manner every year as the national day of the people of Afghanistan. This decree is to be published in the press and the official gazette.

[Signed] Najibollah, president of Afghanistan

Bangladesh

Foreign Minister Views Upcoming Burmese Talks

BK2101125492 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1230 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Mustafizur Rahman has said the issue of quick return of Rohingya [Burmese Muslim] refugees to their homes will figure prominently in the next flag meeting scheduled to be held at high level between Bangladesh and Myanmar on the 28th of this month.

He told newsmen in Dhaka Monday that the Home and Relief Ministries are jointly working out the number of refugees that crossed into Bangladesh over the last few months. Mr. Mustafizur Rahman said the refugees are being provided with food and temporary shelter till their return to Myanmar.

He urged the all concerned quarters to refrain from spreading rumors on the border issue between the two countries. The foreign minister said the government is fully alive to the situation and is careful of the [words indistinct].

He said the Myanmar foreign minister is expected to visit Bangladesh shortly though no date has yet been fixed.

India

Protest Lodged on Libyan UN Kashmir Proposal

BK1801032292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 18 Jan 92

[Text] India has lodged a strong protest with the Libyan Government for trying to include Kashmir as one of the unresolved problems to be discussed at a special session of the UN General Assembly.

According to official sources in New Delhi, the protest was conveyed through the Libyan ambassador in New Delhi and India's charge d'affaires in Tripoli. The sources added that New Delhi had asked Libya to withdraw its proposal, but Tripoli did not agree.

Libya's Jallud Arrives, Views Resolution

BK2201162892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] Libya says that it fully supports the territorial integrity of India and the question of Jammu and Kashmir should be discussed only bilaterally between New Delhi and Islamabad and not in international forums.

During a brief visit to New Delhi today, a senior Libyan leader, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, told the prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, that his country is aware of the fact that terrorist attacks are being launched against India in Jammu and Kashmir with a view to weakening the country. He explained that the intention behind the Libyan move to include a reference to Jammu and Kashmir in the UN General Assembly resolution was to bring an end to such attacks. He said since the motive behind the Libyan move was misunderstood and New Delhi did not wish a reference to Jammu and Kashmir in the resolution, his country took immediate steps to withdraw it.

About the bombing of Pan Am flight over Scotland and a French flight over North Africa, Maj. Jallud said Libya is against all forms of terrorism but opposes the UN Security Council resolution urging the Libyan Government to surrender the suspects. He described the resolution as unjust as it relates to a question in which the Security Council has no role.

Mr. Narasimha Rao informed the Libyan leader that the original resolution was quite harsh. He said India worked with members of the Security Council to formulate a resolution which offers a better chance for an amicable settlement. A paragraph has now been added to the resolution to give role to the UN secretary general in the matter. He suggested that the Government of Libya should work through the secretary general for an early solution of the problem.

Mr. Narasimha Rao hosted a lunch in honor of Maj. Jallud.

The External Affairs Ministry spokesman said the two leaders reviewed the international situation and the need for

Nonaligned countries to cooperate with each other. They agreed that the Nonaligned Movement continues to have relevance as it represents the poorer and weaker nations of the world constituting a large chunk of humanity.

The two leaders discussed the role of the United Nations and the steps needed to democratize its functioning.

Further on Visit of PLO's 'Arafat

Urges Indian Role in Middle East Talks

BK2001161692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 20 Jan 92

[Text] India today reiterated its support for the Palestinian people and the cause of Palestine. This was conveyed to the visiting Palestine president [as heard], Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, by the prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, during their meeting in New Delhi today. Mr. Narasimha Rao said India will offer whatever help and support it could in order to achieve the twin objectives of peace and helping the Palestinian friends.

Mr. 'Arafat gave his assessment of the West Asia peace conference. He said till recently the Palestinian people were not very hopeful about the outcome. But now they have some cause for optimism as Palestine is on the center stage of the peace talks. He expressed his conviction that India's participation in the peace process is necessary.

Earlier, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, had a meeting with Mr. 'Arafat.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1537 GMT on 20 January in a similar report adds: "Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat suggested Monday that India participate in the Middle East peace process by attending the Moscow talks scheduled for late this month, officials said.

" 'Arafat's proposal came during an hour-long meeting here with Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao on the first day of a three-day visit which he began against the backdrop of thawing India-Israeli relations.

"Indian officials said 'Arafat told Rao there was some cause for 'optimism' over the peace talks, which began with a historic Madrid meeting. But he cautioned that it would take time to reach a solution.

"The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman voiced his 'firm conviction' that India's participation was necessary to boost the chances for peace and suggested New Delhi send a delegation to the Moscow talks, set for January 28-29, the officials said.

"Rao reportedly told 'Arafat that India had always offered whatever help it could towards peace in the region and to 'our Palestinian friends,' but gave no indication whether New Delhi would play a direct role.

"The Indian premier again voiced India's 'consistent and unequivocal' support for the Palestinian people, saying India had a vital interest in ensuring Middle East stability."]

Receives Indira Gandhi Award

BK2101130092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] The first Indira Gandhi Award for International Justice and Harmony was presented to the PLO president, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, at a function in New Delhi this evening. Presenting the award, the president of the Indian Council of World Affairs, Mr. Harcharan Singh Josh, said it is befitting that the award is bestowed on Mr. 'Arafat, who dedicated his life for bringing about an international order based on justice and harmony among nations, a course championed by Indira Gandhi.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lok Sabha speaker, Mr. Shivraj Patil; the human resource development minister, Mr. Arjun Singh; and the minister of state for extenal affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, paid rich tributes to the Palestine leader who symbolized the hopes and aspirations of the Palestinian people.

In his reply, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat said he was delighted to receive the award instituted in the name of Indira Gandhi, who always supported the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination for an independent state. He urged New Delhi to take a prominent role in the ongoing peace process for a positive outcome.

Comments on Indo-Israeli Ties

BK2101160092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] The Palestine president, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, has said establishment of full diplomatic relations between New Delhi and Tel Aviv will not in any way affect the historic Indo-PLO relationship.

Addressing a press conference in New Delhi this evening, Mr. 'Arafat said India has been maintaining relations with Israel though on a low key and added that he will respect any Indian move in this regard. He expressed the view that it is not necessary for India to establish diplomatic ties with Israel to qualify to participate in the West Asia peace talks. He said India's membership of the UN Security Council has helped the council in adopting a resolution recognizing the Palestinian territories as Israeli-occupied areas.

The Palestine president held wide-ranging discussions with the president, Mr. R. Venkataraman; Vice President Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma; and the prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, on the West Asia peace talks and on the international situation. He also met leaders of major political parties.

Calls on Israel To Cease 'Violations'

BK2201111092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] India and Palestine have called for intensifying efforts to usher in a comprehensive and just peace in

West Asia and restore inalienable rights of the Palestinians. Speaking at a banquet in honor of the visiting Palestinian leader, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, the president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, said there can be no hope for durable peace or stability in West Asia without a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue.

In his reply, Mr. 'Arafat cautioned that the policies of Israel would torpedo the current peace efforts. He urged Tel Aviv to stop all violations.

Welcomes UN Lockerbie Resolution

BK2201080092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] The chief of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, has welcomed the UN Security Council resolution demanding Libya to surrender its nationals allegedly involved in the 1988 plane crash at Lockerbie, in Scotland. He was talking to newsmen just before he was given a ceremonial send-off at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President's House] in New Delhi today.

He said that Libya has expressed its willingness to coordinate at all levels in this regard. The PLO chief said that the sovereignty of Libyan people should be respected.

Commentary Assesses Draft Treaty With Russia

BK2201050692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Commentary by Propha Bidway of THE TIMES OF INDIA]

[Text] The high-level Indian delegation to Moscow has just returned with the news that a draft treaty has been finalized between Russia and India to replace the Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty of 1971. The new treaty, on an optimistic view, reflects the ability and willingness of the two states to respond to contemporary realities, including the fact of Russia's status as a successor to the former USSR. From a more realistic view, however, the draft treaty is but a pale shadow of the 1971 agreement. Functionally it means very little in permanent terms. For one, the entire context of 1971, namely the confrontation with Pakistan over Bangladesh in which the United States tended to back Islamabad, is missing. Therefore, Russia today is not the kind of friend that the Soviet Union was over 20 years ago.

For another, Soviet communism is effectively dead and the cold war has already ended on the West's terms. This means that there is no military significance to the notion of a friendship treaty in the context of rivalry between two hostile blocs.

And for the third, Russia is both unable and unwilling to invest much in the special relationship with a Third World country like India.

In operational terms the draft treaty has two consequences. One, it is a trade-off between Indian recognition of Russia as the logical successor state to the former USSR, on the one hand, and Russian backing for this country on the Kashmir issue on the other. And secondly, if and when the question of a radical reform of the United Nations and the expansion of the Security Council comes up, India could legitimately refer to the treaty in order to solicit Russian support of its claim of a possible permanent membership of the Security Council. Indeed, the treaty does assign a special role to India in the region, itself one of the most populous parts of the world.

However, it is difficult to say how reliable Russian support will be. Official sources themselves appear skeptical when they emphasize that nothing in international relations is immutable and that this has to be accepted unsentimentally. It is not as if the treaty did not involve paying some kind of a cost or taking a risk. It does mean that India's relations with the Asian republics of the former USSR can no longer be taken for granted. These traditional cultural and trading relations cannot be reasonably assumed to grow in a situation of potential alienation from and rivalry with Russia. However, the Foreign Office appears to have decided to take the risk in return for Russian support on Kashmir, a defense spares supply agreement, and the promise of the new trade compact. Only time will tell if the risk is worth the benefit.

Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Syria's Khaddam Discuss Ties

LD2101113792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani this morning received Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who is visiting Tehran at the head of a high-ranking delegation to participate in the session of two countries' joint commission. The meeting was also attended by First Vice President Habibi and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

Mr. Khaddam, while conveying the sincere salutations of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, elaborated on the latest regional and international developments. The Syrian vice president described his country's views on world issues, especially the latest developments in the newly independent former Soviet republics. He said: It is vital for me to visit Iran at this sensitive juncture. He added: We place extraordinary importance on cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran and we believe that the expansion of our cooperation is to the benefit of the two Muslim and fraternal countries of Iran and Syria.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, expressing thanks for Mr. Hafiz al-Asad's warm greetings, noted that Syria is a Muslim and friendly country which is always at the front of the struggle against the Zionist regime. The president welcomed the expansion of relations between the two countries, saying: We believe that under current sensitive conditions, greater cooperation is in the interest of

the two nations and the Islamic ummah. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The session of the two countries' joint commission and the agreements reached on bilateral cooperation are valuable assets. The new world conditions call for greater expansion of this cooperation.

The president said that the latest developments in the former Soviet Union and the start of cooperation with the independent republics, notably with the Muslim republics, is a turning point in greater cooperation at the regional level with neighboring and Muslim countries. He expressed the hope that these relations will develop.

Khaddam on Nonparticipation in Moscow Talks

JN2101175192 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1620 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and the delegation accompanying him left Tehran at noon today at the end of a two-day visit to Iran. During the visit, Khaddam held talks with Iranian officials within the framework of the higher Syrian-Iranian joint committee.

Iranian Vice President Dr. Hasan Habibi, the deputy foreign minister, and senior Iranian Foreign Ministry officials saw 'Abd-al-Halim off at Mehrabad Airport.

In statements to Iranian and Syrian television stations and journalists before his departure, 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam said: We held important discussions on several regional and international issues within the framework of the two countries' joint policy. He added: Our views were in agreement on all these issues. We also discussed the importance of pursuing work to enhance relations between the two friendly countries.

Khaddam said: I would like to express the Syrian delegation's satisfaction with the results we have achieved. I also would like to express our thanks and gratitude for the fraternal accord with which we were received.

In reply to a question on Syria's stand on the Moscow conference, Khaddam said: The conference that is proposed for Moscow seeks to establish normal relations between the countries in the region and Israel while Israel continues to occupy the Arab territory and disavows the Palestinian people's national rights. He added that this conference was originally an Israeli idea to serve Israel's interests. Therefore, it is very natural for us not to participate in it.

Khaddam said: How can one discuss regional relations and cooperation under the canopy of aggression and occupation, and how can one discuss economic cooperation and cooperation on water issues while the Palestinian people are dispersed and are greatly suffering?

Khaddam added: During the negotiations which were held in Washington, the Israeli delegation was explicit in refusing to implement the UN resolutions. The Israeli leaders' recurrent statements confirm Israel's aggressive policy of perpetuating the occupation.

In reply to a question on how he views the future of the negotiations, he said: This matter depends on two things. The first is Israel's announcement that it is committed to the implementation of the UN resolutions, and the second is the international community bringing pressure to bear on the Israelis.

He added: In any case, Syria is determined to achieve a full Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and to secure the Palestinian people's national rights because homelands and the rights of people are not a topic for bargaining between us and any other party.

In reply to a question on the situation in Algeria, the vice president said: We should monitor the developments and we hope that our Algerian brothers will succeed in averting any harm coming to Algeria.

In reply to a question on Syrian-Algerian relations in light of the recent developments, Khaddam said: Algeria is a fraternal country, and we deal with the Algerian state. It goes without saying that we continue to have relations with Algeria and its people. Algeria is a fraternal country, and it is natural that we continue to have relations with Algeria.

In reply to a question on the topics that were discussed at a recent meeting by the Iraqi opposition factions, Khaddam said: First of all, this question should be posed to the Iraqi opposition. Part of this opposition is in Tehran. They are working to coordinate and unify their efforts. They have a major cause, and Iraq is suffering greatly. It is only natural that they take care of their country. It is natural that we assist them in removing the tribulations from which the Iraqi people suffer.

In reply to a question on the Arab hostages in Israeli prisons and the decision that they not be released, the vice president said: It goes without saying that Israel is an aggressor country. It daily practices aggression against the Arabs and against Lebanon. The Lebanese people daily offer much blood and suffer much in their confrontation of the Zionist aggression. Khaddam added: We had hoped that the United Nations' efforts to obtain the release of the Arab hostages in Israeli prisons would succeed. In any case, this issue should be followed up. We should not be surprised if Israel does not release them because we cannot trust the Israelis or their practices, which are based on aggression.

As for reports of border problems between Turkey and Syria and Iraq, Khaddam said: The Turks did not communicate such reports to us. Of course, the borders between us and Turkey are more than 800 km long. Border problems could occur here and there, but according to the information that we have, there is no tension between the two countries over these problems. [passage omitted]

Habibi Terms Talks 'Very Fruitful'

LD2101155192 Tehran IRNA in English 1456 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Tehran, Jan. 21, IRNA—Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam left Tehran at the end of a one-day official visit. [passage omitted]

Iran's Vice President Hasan Habibi who was seeing off the Syrian envoy at Tehran Mehrabad Airport Tuesday said talks with Khaddam had been very fruitful.

According to Habibi issues relevant to the upcoming Moscow conference, and the ways and means for activating the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as strategies for neutralizing wayward influence of any one member country of the United Nations in the decisions of the world body highlighted in the talks between the Syrian envoy and the Iranian officials in Tehran.

He said the multilateral Moscow conference scheduled for the next week ignores the rights of the Arab nations, and because participation in the talks means a tacit approval of its position Syria will not participate in the talks.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' accompanied Khaddam in his visit to Tehran.

Government, Sudan Reach Trade Agreement

LD1501183692 Tehran IRNA in English 1332 GMT 15 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA—The volume of annual trade exchanges between Iran and Sudan has been set at dlrs [dollars] 300 million according to a letter of understanding inked between the two countries here today.

Vice-President and head of Iran's Budget and Planning Organization Mas'ud Roghani-Zanjani who inked the letter, said annual exports of 1.2 million tons of crude oil to Sudan, was the main item of the letter.

Sudanese Minister of Finance and Planning 'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Hamdi signed the letter for his country.

Roghani-Zanjani also said that Iran will help Sudan exploit its crude oil resources, and will sell 500 tractors to that country to help promote its agricultural efforts.

The purchase of meat and livestock from Sudan, investment of the Iranian private sector in Sudan, mutual cooperation for establishment of a free trade zone and cooperation in air and sea transportation between the two countries are among other articles of the letter, Roghani-Zanjani said.

Hamdi who left Tehran this afternoon termed his five-day visit as "successful" and said officials of the two countries reached agreement in several areas.

Last night, the 7-man Sudanese delegation met with head of the Chamber of Commerce 'Ali-Naqi Khamushi, who told the visitors that Iranian industrialists were keen to invest in industrial projects in Sudan.

Sudanese President [title as received] 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir is also to pay a visit to Iran soon, Hamdi announced before leaving.

Pakistan

Prime Minister Holds Talks With U.S. Admiral

BK2201094592 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jan 92

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has expressed the hope that the exchange of visits by senior Pakistani and U.S. officials will help U.S. leaders to better understand its difficulties and problems. He said such visits will further strengthen their existing traditional and close relations. The prime minister said this when U.S. naval chief Admiral Frank B. Kelso called on him in Islamabad yesterday.

He also referred to the problems that emerged during the past one and a half years which have obstructed the sale of U.S. defense equipment to Pakistan. He expressed the hope that this issue would be resolved soon. He said apart from military cooperation, Pakistan not only wants to maintain its relations with the U.S. but to strengthen them as well.

On the question of nonproliferation in South Asia, the prime minister said he could not understand why this could not be resolved. He stated that several major changes have taken place in the world and that the time has come for India and Pakistan to resolve their outstanding issues. Pakistan is strongly committed to making South Asia a nuclear-free zone, but this would only be possible when India reciprocates.

Referring to the current talks between the two countries, he said he has already met his Indian counterpart twice in the past few months. Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif regretted that both countries are spending huge sums of money on defense instead of the welfare of their people. If there is some reduction in the tension, this will benefit the people of the two countries.

The prime minister said the navies of Pakistan and the United States have cooperated in the past and he hopes that they will maintain close ties in the future as well in the interest of peace in the region.

Naval chief Sayeed M. Khan and U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Nicholas Platt were also present on the occasion.

Senate Committee on 'Discriminatory' U.S. Attitude

BK2101155692 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Jan 92

[Text] The Senate's standing committee on defense and defense production at its meeting in Islamabad today asked the government to continue implementing the policy of self-reliance in the field of defense production. The meeting felt the need to mobilize resources to speed up the process of research and development and to

expand the industrial base. However, the government should emphasize to the United States that it should honor its pledges and trade agreements as a self-respecting nation.

The committee felt that dependence on weapon imports affects cooperation between our research and development activities and the related industries. The country should make full use of the opportunity provided by the U.S. ban on weapons sales. We should not only seek alternative sources in this connection but should also utilize all our capabilities to achieve self-reliance in defense production. The committee commended the government's efforts in this regard.

The committee described the Pressler Amendment as the worst example of a discriminatory attitude with which Pakistan has been targeted. The committee also criticized the nonfulfillment of agreements reached earlier with private parties in the United States, especially accords for which Pakistan was paying from its own resources.

Senator Asif Safiuddin Wardhak presided over the meeting.

Minister Says France Seeks Nuclear Aid Safeguards

BK1901095692 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Jan 92

[Text] The prime minister's talks with President Mitterrand [words indistinct] (?ministers of) foreign affairs, defense, trade, and commerce. France supported the Pakistani prime minister's proposal of 6 June last year for nonproliferation in South Asia. This was stated by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Kanjoo, in Islamabad today. He said the question of supply of nuclear power plant by France to Pakistan is still open, but France wanted special safeguards as it had announced to sign the Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT].

Mr. Siddique Kanjoo emphasized that Pakistan also wanted safeguards, but said it cannot sign the NPT unilaterally. He said for this purpose Pakistan has proposed the nonproliferation conference for South Asia as it strictly believed in nonproliferation. He pointed out that India was refusing to sign the NPT despite the fact that entire world knew India's nuclear program as it detonated a nuclear device as [far] back as in 1974, whereas the United States has only unfounded apprehensions about Pakistan's peaceful nuclear program. He said India is the only country which is not supporting the Pakistani proposal of nonproliferation in South Asia.

Finance Minister Hails Visit

BK1801113892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 18 Jan 92

[Text] The federal minister for finance, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, has said that the major objectives set forth by the the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, for his current visit to France have been achieved during talks with French leaders which were highly satisfactory.

In an interview with BBC, Mr. Sarjaj Aziz said the most important point of the prime minister's visit was that an understanding on Pakistan's defense requirements have been reached with the leaders of France, who have agreed to meet these requirements. He said the second objective was to attract French businessmen and industrialists to invest in Pakistan. Mr. Sartaj Aziz hoped there is a lot of interest among French businessmen to come and invest in Pakistan not just for the Pakistani market but for export also. He said many of the French companies, particulary those of telecommunications and automobiles, are interested in setting up manufacturing facilities in Pakistan for international markets particularly for Central Asian republics.